

UN agency won't report on W. Bank

Page 2

THE JERUSALEM POST

Vol. LV, No. 16514 Thursday, May 7, 1987 • Iyar 8, 5747 • Ramadan 10, 1407 NIS 0.80 (Eilat NIS 0.70)



After Kalkilya rampage

Police to query Gush Emunim chief

By JOEL GREENBERG and JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporters

Gush Emunim secretary-general Daniela Weiss is to be questioned today by police about her role in a rampage by settlers in Kalkilya early yesterday that followed the attempted firebombing of an Israeli car near the West Bank town.

A police spokeswoman said that the investigation of Weiss would be wrapped up quickly, and that she could be charged with disorderly conduct and causing damage to property.

Weiss told *The Jerusalem Post* last night that settlers would continue to react against the anti-Jewish attacks in the territories. "We will not keep silent in the face of even a single stone, because every stone and every petrol bomb is an attempted murder," she said. "We will leave our homes and continue to protest, even after the slightest attack."

Weiss said her action in Kalkilya had been blown out of proportion, and was a "minor marginal act as compared with intolerable security lapses."

Armed settlers last night set out on vigilante patrols in the streets of Kalkilya, and vowed to continue

them nightly. IDF troops stopped some groups of settlers at the outskirts of the town, but others made their way in.

The IDF yesterday lodged a complaint with the police against Weiss, after she and dozens of settlers ran an IDF roadblock near Kalkilya, and drove through the town, honking their horns, smashing empty bottles against storefronts, setting tyres on fire and overturning garbage bins and vegetable crates. The town was under curfew.

Weiss said the settlers who accompanied her were from Alfei Menashe, Karnei Shomron and Kedumim.

In a recording broadcast last night on Gali Zahal, Weiss could be heard shouting over the sounds of breaking bottles and pleas of soldiers: "I won't stop, I'm telling you, I won't stop. People, don't stand there with your hands in your pockets, make a mess, noise.... You're embarrassed by what I'm doing? I'm more embarrassed when they kill a child."

An IDF spokesman said complaints would be filed against the owners of three cars whose licence numbers were noted by the soldiers

at the roadblock. An Arab store-owner whose bottles were smashed also filed a complaint.

The police's decision to question Weiss followed directives by the defence establishment for a thorough investigation.

Chief of General Staff Dan Shomron and OC Central Command Ehud Barak decided to ask Police Inspector General David Krause to take immediate action against Weiss.

In a rare statement, senior military sources said they viewed the rioting and running of the IDF roadblock "very seriously." They warned that running roadblocks "is a dangerous action which can lead to loss of life, for which the lawbreaker will be responsible." The sources said measures would be taken to prevent recurrence of yesterday's incident.

While Gush Emunim has not officially condemned the rampage, several movement leaders were reported last night to have criticized Weiss, and to have demanded her ouster. Minister-without-Portfolio Yosef Shapira, a member of the expanded Gush Emunim secretariat, said it was inconceivable that

Weiss's action was authorized by the movement.

Settlement leaders met last night at Givat Shomron to discuss how to respond to anti-Jewish attacks. Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein said Weiss should be arrested and tried. And a group of protesters from the Citizens Rights Movement demonstrated outside of her Kedumim home.

Yesterday's rampage began after settlers returned from an early morning vigil at Rabin's home, following Tuesday night's firebombing attempt. Alfei Menashe local council head Shlomo Kattan called on settlement members to avoid vigilante action.

Kattan and Kalkilya mayor Abdel Rahman Abu Sneh said yesterday they would be ready to form a joint Jewish-Arab civil guard along the road.

Abu Sneh told *The Jerusalem Post* that the settlers' rampage had "damaged" the good relations between us and our Jewish neighbours. One or two persons here made trouble, and they came and made trouble for 30,000 people. To make matters worse, we were the ones who were put under curfew.

'Labour willing to meet PLO'-Shamir

By ASHER WALLFISH and MENACHEM SHALEV
Jerusalem Post Reporters

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir charged yesterday that the Alignment was willing to sit down with the PLO at the negotiating table.

"The Alignment wants an international conference because it has despaired of the Arabs agreeing to direct negotiations," Shamir told the secretariat of the National Religious Party in Jerusalem.

"The Alignment leaders do not fear an international conference, because they are willing to give up Judea and Samaria in any case," Shamir said. "This, to my sorrow, is the true fact of the situation."

But Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, saying that Shamir was not the "Labour Party spokesman," accused the premier of ascribing non-existent positions to Labour "so that it will be easy for him to argue with us... Only the Likud is searching for the PLO," he said sarcastically.

Labour won't talk to the PLO or abandon Israel's fate to a superpower "even if Shamir recommends it," Peres told political reporters in Tel Aviv.

Agreement on the participants would have to be reached before the UN's secretary-general could extend invitations to the international conference, Peres said, and Labour would object to the PLO being invited. "If the secretary-general invites someone to whom we object, then we simply won't attend," he said.

If negotiations with Jordan got under way under the national unity government, Israel would propose "self-rule" to the inhabitants of the

territories, Peres said, adding that a Labour-led government "might do the same thing."

Shamir dismissed Peres's claims that he would walk out of an international conference if terms were violated by other participants.

"When you go into an international conference, you don't envisage the possibility of leaving. You lay down the conditions you require in

Peres's Jerusalem home. They heard clarifications of an exchange of correspondence between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Shamir in which Shultz said an agreement with King Hussein offered concrete evidence of Jordan's readiness to negotiate.

Commenting on Likud ministers' statements yesterday, the Alignment ministers said these were a clear indication of the Likud's intention of sabotaging any moves towards a peace conference.

advanceto obviate this possibility," Shamir said.

"Once Israel jumps into the maelstrom, it will never get out, and not for the reason that America would decline to get out."

But Peres said: "It is possible to secure a memorandum of understanding with the U.S. on its obligation to Israel on the conference."

The world, Shamir said, would have "tremendous expectations" of an international conference, which would be dashed if Israel walked out.

"The break-up of the international conference would bring war closer in the Middle East," he warned.

Referring to Peres's claims that an international conference would only be held if the participants abided by strict conditions, such as non-intervention in bilateral talks in committee, Shamir said: "I do not believe that the conditions they talk about exist."

"But even if those conditions are present today, they will disappear into thin air once the conference begins. The Alignment is doing its best to persuade us that an international conference as they envisage it is not as bad as it's painted. But I can prove it will be very bad."

Absolutely ruling out the possibility of agreeing to take part in a conference attended by a PLO delegate, Shamir said: "The moment you sit with a PLO representative, it means you have surrendered to the PLO's demand to give them at least a part of Eretz Yisrael."

Shamir added he would not agree to legitimizing the PLO by asking it to subscribe to Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. "I shall not sit with murderers whatever they say," Shamir declared.

"I would sit with any Arab leader, including of course King Hussein, but the headline this week singling out the king was pure unfounded sensationalism," he said.

"We have moved further away from peace because the Alignment's agreement to an international conference means that no Arab leader will now consent to direct talks."

Shamir charged that Israeli diplomats had never made it clear to Soviet leaders that the resumption of diplomatic relations and the freedom of Jewish emigration from Russia were essential before the Soviets could participate in any talks on the (Continued on Back Page)

Secord bares further details of Israeli part in Contra deal

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. - The lead U.S. witness in the congressional hearings on the Iran-Contra affair yesterday described in intimate detail Israel's very active involvement both in shipping weapons to Iran, in the hope of winning the release of American hostages in Lebanon, and in making funds available to the Contra rebels in Nicaragua.

Retired U.S. Air Force major-general Richard Secord, who was involved in both operations as a private citizen, having been enlisted by the National Security Council and the Central Intelligence Agency, said that Israeli arms dealer Al Schwimmer had in November 1985 even allowed some \$800,000 in Israeli funds to be used in support of the Contras.

Secord, during his second day of sworn testimony before the joint House-Senate panel on the Iran arms affair, said that ousted National Security Council staffer Oliver North had come up with the idea of using the Israeli funds held by Schwimmer for "the Contra project."

North, who so far has refused to testify, citing his constitutional right to refuse to incriminate himself, told Attorney-General Edwin Meese last November that Amiram Nir, a counter-terrorism adviser to then prime minister Peres, had in early 1986 come up with the idea of using profits from the Iran arms sales to help the Contras. Israel has repeatedly denied that charge.

The thrust of Secord's testimony so far shows an Israel extremely

anxious to promote an improved U.S. dialogue with Iran, consistently pushing the Reagan administration in that direction in 1985 and 1986.

But Secord also insisted that President Reagan had in fact authorized the first Israeli arms shipment to Iran in the summer of 1985.

Secord charged that several U.S. officials, including North and former National Security adviser Robert McFarlane, had in November 1986 deliberately attempted to falsify a draft White House chronology of the events in order to show that the president had not approved the first Israeli shipment in advance.

McFarlane later changed his position, agreeing that Israel had been authorized to sell the weapons to Iran. Reagan, for his part, has said that he cannot remember when he approved the Israeli sales.

Secord said that Schwimmer, together with another Israeli arms dealer, Ya'acov Nimrodi, and then-director general of the Foreign Ministry David Kimche, played a key role in the planned shipment of 80 improved Hawk anti-aircraft missiles to Iran in November 1985.

An earlier Israeli shipment of 508 TOW anti-tank missiles to Iran in the summer of 1985 resulted in the release of the Rev. Benjamin Weir, an American hostage in Lebanon. But after the first batch of 18 missiles was delivered by Israel in November, the Iranians bitterly complained that the Hawks were of a type designed to shoot down low-flying - as opposed to high-flying - aircraft.

Eventually, Secord said, the Ira-



Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, framed by a Star of David at the WJC executive meeting in Budapest yesterday. The WJC is meeting for the first time in an East European country. (AFP telephoto)

Bronfman conciliatory to Austria

By ILONA HENRY
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

BUDAPEST. - World Jewish Congress chairman Edgar Bronfman called last night for reconciliation between Jews and the Austrian people.

Addressing the executive meeting of the WJC here, Bronfman said: "We did not have a fight with the Austrian people but with Mr. Waldheim." He added that, following

the U.S. decision to put the Austrian president on its watch-list, "the matter was solved to our satisfaction."

Bronfman added: "I hope to meet with (Austrian) Chancellor Franz Vranitzky in the U.S. in about 10 days, and I hope that we can talk things over in a positive way. I hope the Austrian people will be our friends again." (see earlier story on page 4).

Shatilla survivors sue Aluf Yaron for damages

By WOLF BLITZER
WASHINGTON. - Three Palestinian survivors of the Sabra and Shatilla massacres yesterday filed a civil suit in the U.S. Federal District Court here against General Amos Yaron, the Israeli Embassy's defence attaché.

Yaron, commander of the Israeli forces in West Beirut at the time of the massacres, was yesterday served with court papers at his home. The papers asked that he respond within 20 days to the complaint that he violated his responsibilities under international law by failing to protect the civilian population under his control.

Based on Yaron's response, a U.S. federal judge will have to decide whether the case should be dismissed.

Yaron yesterday refused to discuss the matter with a reporter.

The suit did not include any specific sum demanded of Yaron for compensatory damages, but did ask that he pay \$100,000 in punitive dam-

ages. The compensatory damages, the suit said, should be determined by the court judge on the basis of evidence presented.

The suit said that Yaron's diplomatic immunity should not be allowed to protect him. It noted that the Geneva Conventions governing warfare stipulate that diplomatic immunity should not be granted to people who violate various provisions of the statutes.

The suit was filed by three women who were injured during the massacres and still live in the camps.

In 1983, Yaron was rebuked by the Kahan Commission for his failure to prevent the massacres during his command of the Israeli forces in Beirut. Since coming to Washington last year, he has been a frequent target of criticism from American Arab groups and others.

In March, Canada rejected his credentials as military attaché to Ottawa - a position usually held simultaneously by the Israeli attaché in Washington.

SA poll result awaited

South Africans were late last night waiting for the first results of a general election limited to white voters.

The ruling National Party was expected to win the election with a broad majority but observers were attaching great importance to the degree of opposition the next government would meet both from the right and the left.

In a mock vote conducted by a black newspaper to coincide with the election, jailed black nationalist Nelson Mandela won handily and President Botha trailed in 24th place.

For the past six weeks, the newspaper, *The Sowetan*, has asked its mainly black readers to nominate their choices for leaders in a

hypothetical, post-apartheid South Africa.

Mandela, jailed for life in 1964 for plotting sabotage and revolution, won 838 votes, followed by Oliver Tambo, leader of the outlawed African National Congress guerrilla group seeking to end white rule, with 743.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the black head of the Anglican Church in South Africa, was third with 691 votes.

The most-favoured white in the poll was Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, former leader of the opposition Progressive Federal Party (PPP) which wants to scrap apartheid laws. He came seventh with 498 votes.

Helen Suzman, white critic of apartheid, came ninth. (See page 3)



William Casey, ex-Central Intelligence Agency chief, died of pneumonia yesterday morning in a Glen Cove, New York hospital, aged 74. Last December he underwent surgery for a brain tumour that proved to be malignant. See story page 3. (Reuters)

Woman killed in Gilo in bus-truck crash

Jerusalem resident Rachel Avdi, 53, was killed and 17 people were injured yesterday when an Egged bus collided with a truck in Jerusalem's Gilo neighbourhood.

The injured, including four children and two infants, were taken by ambulance to three Jerusalem hospitals. Hospital spokesmen described their injuries as "light" and said all of them would be released today. (Itim)



Former Maj.-Gen. Richard Secord testifying in the Irangate hearings before the joint committees of the U.S. Senate and House. He was the first witness in the hearings which opened on Tuesday. (AFP telephoto)

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Mansdorf beats top-seeded Connors in Japan

KOBE (AP). - Amos Mansdorf of Israel upset top-seeded Jimmy Connors of the United States 6-4, 6-3 yesterday in the opening match of the \$200,000 Gunze World Tennis '87.

Connors appeared to lose concentration after protesting against a line decision when he fed 3-2 in the first set in the Kobe municipal gymnasium in western Japan.

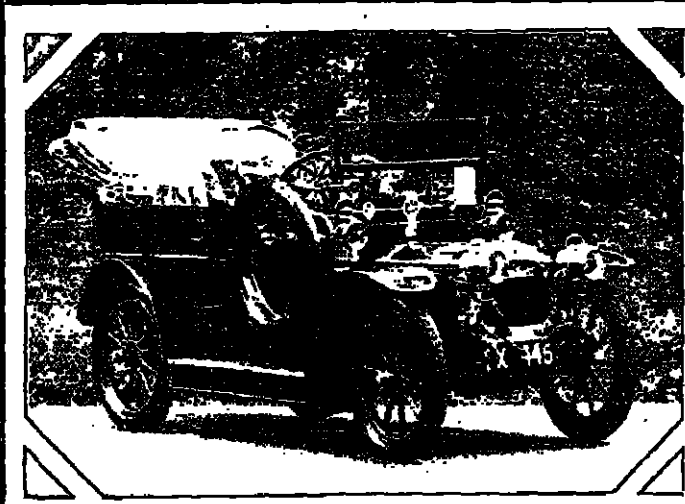
Connors, 34, could not gain his rhythm in the second set as the 21-year-old Mansdorf, ranked 36th in the world, took the first four games and went on to beat the world's ninth ranked player in 87 minutes.

Top-seeded Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia meets Robin White of the United States in the women's singles today.

The winners in the men's and women's singles will receive \$30,000 dollars each on Sunday. The tournament is sponsored by Gunze, a major raw silk spinner.

Mansdorf faces either Brad Gilbert or Scott Davis (both Americans) in the second round of the knockout tournament. The star-studded entry also includes Tim Wilkison also of the U.S., Sweden's Bjorn Borg and two top Japanese players.

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The weather at major Swissair destinations

	6.5.87	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	7	4	9	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	8	4	11	Cloudy
CHICAGO	2	2	18	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	2	4	11	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	8	4	11	Cloudy
GENEVA	4	3	9	Cloudy
HELSINKI	2	2	8	Cloudy
HONG KONG	2	2	8	Cloudy
JOHANNESBURG	9	4	22	Clear
LONDON	13	8	22	Clear
LONDON	13	8	22	Clear
MADRID	4	4	17	Cloudy
MONTREAL	3	3	18	Cloudy
NEW YORK	3	3	18	Cloudy
OSLO	7	4	9	Cloudy
PARIS	9	4	14	Cloudy
RIO DE JANEIRO	20	16	23	Cloudy
SAO PAULO	19	16	23	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	3	3	12	Cloudy
TOKYO	13	8	22	Clear
TORONTO	13	8	22	Cloudy
VIENNA	11	8	18	Cloudy
ZURICH	11	8	18	Cloudy

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Hot and dry.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Max
Jerusalem	12	10-29	32
Golan	23	18-28	31
Nahariya	17	15-28	32
Safed	17	15-28	31
Haifa Port	30	13-27	32
Tiberias	30	12-31	34
Nazareth	38	12-31	33
Afula	27	11-32	34
Shomron	17	11-32	34
Tel Aviv	49	12-27	31
B-G Airport	10	10-30	34
Jericho	22	12-34	37
Gaza	65	14-24	29
Beerseba	9	12-35	38
Eilat	2	10-40	40

Top IDF jobs change hands

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Defence Reporter
TEL AVIV. — The IDF's new deputy chief of general staff, its O.C. central command and the new assistant to the head of the general staff branch take up their posts today, hard on the heels of the promotion of Dan Shomron to chief of general staff. The changes thus put several new men in some of the most sensitive IDF posts.

Planned some time ago, the changes will see Aluf Ehud Barak move from the central command to become Shomron's deputy and the head of the general staff branch. He succeeds Aluf Amir Drori, who quit the army when his hopes of becoming CGS were dashed.

Barak is to be replaced by Aluf Amram Mitzna, formerly assistant to the head of the staff branch. Mitzna, in turn, will be succeeded by Tal-Aluf Giora Rom, an Air Force officer who last commanded the Tel Nof air base.

Nahal medic to be charged for talking to journalist

Post Defence Reporter
TEL AVIV. — The IDF intends to charge a Nahal medic who talked to a London Times journalist without receiving permission from the military authorities.

An unconfirmed report said that the soldier had been arrested. The soldier and Times man Ian Murray were detained on Tuesday in a cafe in Jerusalem as the interview was taking place. Police who questioned the two said they had talked about the Six Day War. But the IDF has nevertheless decided to charge the medic.

20 honoured in Jerusalem

Mayor Teddy Kollek last night awarded the title of Distinguished Citizen of Jerusalem to 20 people on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the reunification of the city. The ceremony was attended by President Herzog.

The recipients of the award are: Aluf (res.) Yosef Avidar, a former Hagana leader and ambassador to Moscow; Haim Aricha, the founder of the Shmuel Hatzadik quarter; writer and researcher Avraham Brick; East Jerusalem notable and municipal worker Salah el-Din Rashid Jerrala; Shoshana Holzberger, teacher and volunteer worker; Katy Winer, a volunteer at the botanical gardens; Dr. Paul Ya'acobi, former deputy mayor who served on the first municipal council; Altalena commander and former MK Eliahu Lankin; Hamdi Bakhar Nubani, who translated the Mishna into Arabic; former district surgeon Dr. Yosef Soriano; Dr. Moshe Arye Kurtz, former director-general of the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry; veteran educationalist Dr. Shimon Leib Kirshenbaum; the founder of the road safety patrols, Kalman Raviv; former deputy mayor Reuven Rabia; Prof. Aharon Shulov, founder of the Biblical Zoo; Prof. Ya'acov Shanun, chairman of the Israel Psychosomatic Medicine Association; former Hagana fighter Yosef Shani; Rabbi Yehye Shue'ur, rabbi of the Mustrara quarter; the director of the Magnes Press, Haim Toren; and presidential adviser and researcher Shulamit Nardi.

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

Air force hits Sidon targets

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Ten Palestinians were reportedly killed and 28 wounded when Israeli Air Force jets blasted targets in and around Southern Sidon at dawn yesterday.

An Israeli military source said the targets were four one-storey buildings in an uninhabited area some five kilometres from the coast southeast of Sidon. The buildings were terrorist headquarters from which attacks were launched against Israel, the IDF spokesman announced.

Reports from Sidon confirmed that the planes had destroyed positions held by Fatah men loyal to Yasser Arafat and by Nayef Hawatmeh's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. These targets were on the Jebel Al-Halib hills overlooking the Palestinian refugee camps of Ein Hilwe and Miyeh Miyeh. There were no casualties there, because the occupants had evacuated the site after an IAF raid in the area on Friday.

The casualties, according to Lebanese police, were all civilians, hit when a salvo of rockets struck a densely populated residential neighbourhood in Ein Hilwe.

"The Salsaf neighbourhood has been reduced to piles of rubble," the Associated Press reported, quoting a police spokesman in Sidon.

AP's Ahmed Mantah, reporting from the scene, said he saw women

in nightdresses beating their breasts and screaming as rescuers dug relatives from the smouldering rubble.

"Please wait, please have mercy, please let me see him for the last time," Amneh Fadl screamed as rescuers removed her 14-year-old son Ahmed on a makeshift stretcher from the debris of the family's shack, Mantah reported.

Agence France-Presse, quoting Palestinian sources, said a young girl, five women and three children were among the wounded.

It was the second most devastating attack this year, the agencies added. Last Friday, 14 people were killed and 37 wounded in a raid on Miyeh Miyeh.

According to the news agencies, yesterday's 10-15 minute raid was launched by four jets which made three dive-bombing sorties. Six other aircraft flew at a high altitude to provide cover.

The enemy fired anti-aircraft guns, but the barrage was sparse, a military source said.

The raids are part of an Israeli attempt to disrupt PLO activity and prevent any rebuilding of its infrastructure, destroyed in the 1982 invasion. The thinking here is that such raids force PLO fighters to leave bases before dawn, camp at less convenient sites, and devote manpower to anti-aircraft units, thus leaving fewer people available for raids on Israel.

UN chief accepts offer to dine with Waldheim

By WALTER RUBY
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

UNITED NATION. — A spokesman for Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has confirmed that the UN chief has accepted an invitation to dine with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim in Vienna next month.

Perez de Cuellar will meet Waldheim on June 16 while in Vienna for a U.N. conference on drug abuse. The meeting will be the first between the two since the emergence last year

of the controversy over Waldheim's Nazi past.

Perez Cuellar's spokesman, Francois Giuliani, declined to comment on rumours that Waldheim may seek to attend the opening session of the General Assembly here in September. Despite the decision of the U.S. Justice department barring Waldheim from visiting the U.S. as a private citizen, the U.S. would be unable to prevent Waldheim from attending a session of the U.N. as head of state.

Syria chides Peres for 'preconditions'

Post Middle East Staff
and agencies

Damascus has accused Foreign Minister Shimon Peres of imposing preconditions on the convening of an international peace conference.

"Peres stated he wouldn't accept preconditions to an international peace conference," said Damascus Radio commentary late Tuesday. "But the Israelis are the ones setting preconditions, which they are trying to impose on the Arabs and on the international community."

The commentary asked what could be achieved in a peace conference "if Peres, who the U.S. portrays as the Israeli dove, is not ready for complete withdrawal from the occupied territories, the recognition of the Palestinian's right to self-determination and an independent state."

In Amman, meanwhile, Jordanian Prime Minister Zaid al-Rifai yesterday discussed efforts to convene an international conference with Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel-Meguid, Jordan's Per-

si news agency said. And King Hussein discussed the issue late Tuesday night with Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sedki.

Both sides restated their agreement on the need for an international peace conference grouping the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and "other parties concerned," said sources in Amman.

In Cairo, President Hosni Mubarak praised PLO chief Yasser Arafat in an interview to be published today in the pro-government magazine *Al-Mussawar*, saying he trusted Arafat's good judgement and his real desire to serve the Palestinian cause — despite the recent strain in PLO-Egyptian relations. It was that appreciation for Arafat that had limited Egypt's reaction to recent PLO criticism of Cairo and the Palestine National Council meeting in Algiers, said Mubarak.

In Qatar, Arafat told the local Palestinian community there was a "75 per cent chance" of convening a Middle East peace conference.

Gov't hospital staffers plan protest against Histadrut

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Hundreds of administrative and maintenance personnel in government hospitals are to demonstrate against the Histadrut on Sunday to protest against the labour federation's "failure" to help in their struggle for higher wages.

The workers say that the demonstration, to be held outside Histadrut headquarters in Tel Aviv at 10 a.m., will be "the first step" in the renewal

of sanctions against the establishment. Several months ago, the 15,000 hospital workers remained off the job for over a week, creating havoc in the wards.

Cleaning workers and clerks were shocked to find that their April pay slips, received at the beginning of this month, had been docked for the strike days, despite an explicit promise from the Histadrut — but not from the government — that they would not be penalized.

UK chief rabbi favours parley

By DAVID HOROVITZ
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON. — Britain's Chief Rabbi Immanuel Jakobovits yesterday declared his support for an international peace conference on the Middle East, saying, "We should be open to every consideration that would lead towards a greater degree of understanding."

In an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, Jakobovits said, "If outside powers are needed to help in this process — such as permanent

members of the UN Security Council — then we ought to welcome it."

Saying it was more important "to preserve the Jewish character of Israel" than to press claims to the "biblical land of Israel," Jakobovits said, "I certainly believe that we should be prepared in principle to make very considerable political, even territorial, concessions for the sake of a guaranteed and secure peace."

But he said that he would regard it as "abhorrent" to hold talks with the PLO.

Terrorist's room ordered sealed

The High Court of Justice yesterday approved the sealing off of a room belonging to the terrorist responsible for the 1983 attack on a No. 18 bus in Jerusalem. Six people were killed and 50 injured in the bombing. The terrorist, Nasser Ramsey Jabber, fled the country and eventually went to Amman. His two accomplices were tried and sentenced to long terms.

Jabber's father appealed to the court to prevent the military authorities from sealing off the room but the judges ruled that the terrorist's act was so grave that the move was warranted. (Tm)



'Superman' goes up on the billboards in the French Riviera in preparation for the Cannes Film Festival due to open on Friday (AFP Photo)

Demjanjuk defence takes hard look at expert evidence

By ERNIE MEYER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Yesterday's session of the Demjanjuk trial offered little of the drama and excitement radio listeners and TV watchers have come to expect of it. Instead, there was solid and stolid legal sloggish as defence counsel John Gill continued his cross-examination of anthropology professor Patricia Smith.

The witness for the prosecution had used her expertise in photo identification to declare with certainty that the photo on the Trawnik identity card was that of the accused. Gill questioned Smith at length on many technical details regarding the selection of the twins in an Adelaide University experiment with which her identification of Demjanjuk is connected.

He had done his homework well, as was evident from the informed nature of his questions on the selection and examination of the twins, and the statistical evaluation of the results. At times he seemed to have the attractive professor on the ropes, but with her calm manner, she was a match for him.

Smith gave her testimony in English, and both she and Gill on occasion reacted to each other directly forgetting the interpreter between them.

Gill asked Smith about other experts in her field, who he said disagreed with the identification method she had used. "They disagree only on whether the method identifies with certainty or with a high degree of probability, she explained.

The defence counsel then suggested that the witness could not give an expert opinion based on the film, since she had not personally produced it. But Smith said that she



knew the method from the professional literature, had selected all the photos to be used, and had guided the technicians in their work. "I made all the decisions."

Gill then had parts of the film shown again, instructing a technician to slow down at certain sections or to screen them again. At one frame he claimed to detect differences in the eyebrows, eyes and ears between the 1986 image of Demjanjuk and the 1942 Trawnik photo.

"I'm amazed that you chose this frame," Smith smiled, "the eyebrows, eyes and ears seem a perfect fit to me."

Gill made much of the fact that in the 1986 film Demjanjuk's shoulders were hunched and his neck seemed shorter than in the 1942 photo.

Smith explained that in the Trawnik photo the young soldier probably had sat up straight, with his hands at his sides, while in the film taken 45 years later he had adopted a more relaxed and natural attitude.

Gill did his best to discredit the entire process of identification by means of video films and the partial superimposition method.

When he repeatedly came back to the discrepancy in the configuration of the subject's neck and shoulders, court president Dov Levin reminded him that the witness had already answered that question several times. But Gill stuck to his guns.

WHO won't report on West Bank

By YAAKOV BEN-ISRAEL
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

GENEVA. — For the first time since its establishment over a decade ago, the Special Committee of the World Health Organization on Medical Conditions in the Territories Occupied by Israel has submitted no report to the organization's national assembly.

This came to light yesterday, shortly before Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almoshino was due to address the assembly which opened here on Monday.

The special committee's reports, routinely hostile to Israel, have served the Arab states over the years as a principal instrument in their attempt to turn the WHO assembly into a forum for anti-Israel propaganda.

Improvements in the health conditions of Palestinians due to Israel's efforts were, in the past, minimized and — where they could be — ignored, portrayed simply as a reflection of Israeli annexation. Resolutions based on these reports were then passed by automatic pro-Arab majorities.

In practical terms, this might not have mattered much, especially since 1984, when Israel was transferred from the WHO's Eastern Mediterranean region — where it had been a virtual pariah — to the European region.

But revulsion at misuse of the WHO by Arabs and their friends has been growing lately, partly in response to the threat of Aids, in the face of which the WHO has no time for politicking.

The special committee — made up of Indonesia, Romania, and Senegal — sensing the changed WHO mood,

has now contented itself with recording that, for the past two years, Israel has denied it visiting rights in the territories.

The committee has also reacted in silence to a strikingly favourable report by WHO director-general Dr. H. Mahler, a Scandinavian, which he based on the findings of a personal representative.

Arbeli-Almoshino yesterday said that the report was "excellent," and that it recognized Israel's successful programme of improving medical services in the territories. Three medical centres set up in Ramallah and Gaza, she pointed out, were being operated by Arab staffs in collaboration with the Israeli government and the WHO with funds from the United Nations Development Programme.

In addition, a large number of Arab doctors have taken advanced training in Israeli hospitals.

Passage of another WHO assembly resolution hostile to Israel is still regarded as highly likely, but the tide is plainly turning. This emerged during Arbeli-Almoshino's meetings with health ministers from many friendly countries, including Zahe, Liberia and — Egypt. At the assembly, she sat between the ministers of health from the USSR and India. The Russian was cordial and noted that his brother-in-law had served as a diplomat in Israel before ties were cut in 1967.

LOTTERY. — In yesterday's national lottery, the following numbers were picked: 6, 12, 19, 27, 32, 36, and the additional number, 39.

Shahal takes aim at Gush

By MARK SEGAL
Post Political Correspondent

Energy Minister Moshe Shahal yesterday denounced the "Wild West Bank" excesses of Gush Emunim vigilantes in Kalkiya on Tuesday night. The usurpation of law enforcement by an extremist group was not only unlawful but un-Jewish, he said, adding that indiscriminate collective punishment evoked memories of the worst kind of Jew-baiting in Russia and other lands. "When I heard the screeches over the radio from the scene, I felt deeply ashamed," the minister said.

He definitely intended raising the issue at the next cabinet meeting, he said, because "if it becomes the accepted norm to use violence indiscriminately then all those disagreeing with those people are under threat."

As to the current cabinet crisis, Shahal said the memorandum of understanding with Jordan plus the American clarifications provide a categorical reply to all of Prime Minister Shamir's queries and serve as a basis for a secure arrangement for the diplomatic process through direct negotiations, following their opening under international auspices.

"If the Likud continues to oppose Peres's political initiative — even after the American assurances — we can only assume total Likud rejection of a process leading to peace," he said. "That must mean new elections."

Labour will insist on a clear decision within two to three weeks, and no later, he said, because Israel should not be the cause of rejecting the chance of peace.

The government could safely determine policy guidelines, as in the Tabat talks, when 14 conditions were set. "The issue is whether the good of the party comes before the good of the country," he said.

The Labour minister sought to remind the Likud that in October 1977 its government signed a document committing Israel to attend a conference in Geneva together with a united Arab delegation, the U.S. and the USSR, with no prior conditions for Soviet participation. It was also agreed to form bilateral working groups, wherein the issues of Judea, Samaria and Gaza would be tackled by Israel, Jordan, Egypt and Palestinian Arabs — the latter in an independent delegation.

"Begin's government signed a document lacking all the safeguards now being offered by the U.S. If the Likud does reject Peres's proposals, it will be a clear sign that its present leadership is as opposed to peace now as it was when it fought Begin on peace with Egypt," Shahal declared.

Tamir to S. Korea after Japan visit

Foreign Ministry Director-General Avraham Tamir left Japan for South Korea yesterday hoping to re-establish a commercial mission in Seoul.

"I will be discussing the peace process and international trade," Tamir told Israel Radio yesterday, "and I must stress that the two are related. Peace furthers trade, and trade influences peaceful ties."

Israel had an embassy in Seoul until a few years ago.

Our dear father, grandfather and great-grandfather

Dr. EDUARD ISAAC

has passed away in his 105th year

Gabi Chitass, Daughter
Lore Weinstein, Daughter
Stephen and Sigrid Edwards, Son and daughter-in-law
Grandchildren, great-grandchildren
and the family in Israel and abroad

He bequeathed his body to science.

One year after the passing of our dear

Dr. AKIBA GERHARD AYALON

we will hold a graveside memorial service on Sunday, May 10, 1987 (11 Iyar 5747) at 4 p.m. at the Kfar Shamir cemetery, Haifa. Transport will leave from the residence of the deceased, 39 Yotam St., Haifa at 3:30 p.m.

The Family

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of

MAX EPSTEIN

In Lugano on May 2, 1987

His wife, Ingrid Epstein
Brother-in-law, Emil Gluck
Mirjam and Alex Zelony
Dan and Siv Gluck
Felicja and Fred Morgenstern and families

Funeral in Göteborg, Sweden

Adas Bnei Yisroel — Ra'anana
extends sincere condolences to its member
GEOFFREY SHARPE
on the tragic passing of his dear father

ARTHUR SHARPE

of Dublin

The Va'ad and Members

سكزا ون الايام

Massive black protest strike as S. African whites go to polls

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters). — At least 1.5 million black workers and students staged one of the biggest protest strikes in South Africa's history as the white minority went to the polls yesterday.

A long, bitter general election campaign ended with white voters trooping to heavily-guarded polling stations, often through eerie, near-deserted streets.

Labour experts said at least one million black workers stayed at home to protest against the exclusion of the 25 million black majority from parliament.

About half a million black youths stayed away from schools and colleges in South Africa's industrial heartland around Johannesburg, the independent labour monitoring group said.

Schools in other parts of the country were also boycotted but no figures were available. Four universities closed their doors after recent clashes between police and demon-

strators on several campuses.

A few hours before polling booths closed, the government announced it had expelled two Australian television journalists.

Richard Carleton and Jennifer Ainge of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation were told to leave the country by midnight last night because of "reports containing gross untruths about South Africa which they wanted to send to Australia," the home affairs department said.

Colleagues said the two newsmen had already left for Zimbabwe.

Five other foreign journalists have been expelled since a national state of emergency was imposed last June along with strict restrictions on the media.

The worker-student protest appeared to pass peacefully in most areas, but eyewitnesses said police fired teargas to disperse crowds after barricades of burning tires and rubble were set up in three black townships around the Indian ocean

city of Durban.

The three million white voters were expected to re-elect president Botha's right-wing National Party (NP).

Security forces launched a major operation in Soweto, the largest black township and a frequent flash-point in the past three years of violent anti-apartheid protest. Motorcycle commandos raced through the pot-holed streets, armoured vehicles patrolled the town and all cars heading for nearby Johannesburg were searched.

Parts of Johannesburg, South Africa's biggest city, resembled a ghost town with some shops shuttered and whites replacing blacks behind the counters of near-empty department stores.

The United Democratic Front, the largest legal anti-apartheid organization, said it was the biggest protest against white rule since a state of emergency was declared last June to crack down on political unrest.



A black South African policeman stands guard as voters go to the polls in the whites-only election in Johannesburg yesterday. (AFP telephoto)

Hart and 'Monkey Business'

By WALTER RUBY
NEW YORK. — A wealthy Miami-area contributor to Jewish causes has been identified as the owner of the pleasure yacht on which presidential contender Gary Hart sailed to the Bahamas last March with a Florida actress.

The New York Post reported yesterday that the pleasure yacht "Monkey Business," on which Hart, 29-year-old actress Donna Rice and two companions sailed in late March to Bimini Island, belongs to Donald Soffer, owner of the 575-acre Turnberry Isle hotel and condominium resort in Miami.

Soffer is a large contributor to such Jewish causes as the United Jewish Appeal and the Simon Wiesenthal Centre.

Turnberry Isle serves as home to many celebrities when they visit

Miami, and Soffer himself, who is said to be worth \$60 million, was once featured on the glitzy television show *The Lives of the Rich and Famous*.

Soffer is known to be a supporter of Democratic candidates and is believed to have been a Hart supporter. He could not be reached for comment yesterday.

According to Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, "a lot of influential Washington politicians come to Turnberry when they are in Miami. Soffer is a very generous person who has been active in many political campaigns... If he believes in an issue, he supports that issue."

Hier said that Soffer is a member of the board of trustees of the Wiesenthal Centre, to which he has contributed since 1978.

Japan rightist group slays journalist 'as warning'

TOKYO. — A rightist group calling itself the "Japanese Independent Patriotic Army" claimed responsibility yesterday for the shotgun killing of a reporter of the national daily *Asahi Shimbun*.

The group also sent two spent cartridges to the newspaper's head office in Tokyo.

Typed letters received by the Kyodo news service and the newspaper said the killing was only the group's first move against all employees of the liberal paper, which they claimed was helping "anti-Japanese sentiment."

On Sunday, a masked gunman burst into the *Asahi* bureau at Nishinomiya in Western Japan and fired a double-barrelled shotgun at point-

blank range, killing reporter Tomohiro Kojiri, 29, and seriously injuring another journalist.

The group emerged in February 1981 when it claimed responsibility for an attack on the U.S. consulate in Kobe. It later claimed responsibility for three attacks on U.S. buildings, and attacks on the Soviet consulate in Osaka, and *Asahi* offices in Nagoya and Tokyo.

Japanese police say there are some 700 rightist groups in the country grouping an estimated 120,000 members. But authorities have difficulty in distinguishing the political activities of gangsters enrolled in their ranks, and true militants are estimated at around 20,000 to 30,000. (Reuters, AFP)

Hague court orders U.S. to unfreeze \$50m. to Iran

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — A special tribunal in The Hague has ordered the U.S. to hand over to Iran about \$500m. in frozen assets after six years of talks, the State Department said on Tuesday.

Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters he could not say immediately whether the funds would be handed over. "We're in the process of studying the order," he said.

The \$500m. is held at the Federal Reserve Bank in New York and represents the remnants of some \$3.7 billion of Iranian assets frozen by then President Jimmy Carter after Iran seized 52 American hostages in Teheran in 1979.

Death sentence for 60 in Guinea secret trials

CONAKRY (Reuters). — Sixty people, including 30 former cabinet ministers and 30 military officers, were sentenced to death in the West African nation of Guinea last night after secret political trials, the government announced yesterday.

The accused were supporters of the late president Ahmed Sekou Toure whose dictatorial administration was overthrown when he died abroad three years ago.

The statement by the ruling Military Committee for National Redress (CMRN) was the first indication that the long-promised trials had taken place. Civilians were tried by a state security court and military men by court martial.

Murder bid against Karamneh relative

BEIRUT (AP). — Malek Salam, the brother-in-law of resigning Prime Minister Rashid Karamneh, survived unscathed an assassination attempt yesterday when an assailant tossed a hand grenade at his car in Moslem West Beirut, police said.

Salam, in his late sixties, heads the government-financed development and construction council and is one of four Sunni Moslem leaders that Lebanese newspapers described as possible candidates to succeed Karamneh, who announced his resignation Monday.

The daily paper *An-Nahar* said Christian President Amin Jemayel was consulting with the nation's

leaders on whether to accept Karamneh's resignation and nominate a prime minister, or to postpone any action pending the resumption of talks with Syria on political reforms.

At the last round of talks held in Damascus on March 27, Karamneh accused the Christians of trying to scuttle the talks by rejecting all the constitutional reforms demanded by the Moslems.

Jemayel also is considering rejecting Karamneh's resignation in return for an end of a 17-month boycott by Moslem cabinet ministers of government meetings under the president. *An-Nahar* said.

'Bearded gunmen' shoot ex-minister

CAIRO. — Two men believed to be Moslem extremists on Tuesday shot and wounded former Egyptian interior minister Hassan Abu Basha, who in 1981 presided over a crackdown on Moslem fundamentalists.

Abu Basha was reported yesterday by hospital officials as recovering steadily from his arm and leg wounds.

An Interior Ministry official said Abu Basha, 65, was shot outside his home on Tuesday night by two "bearded gunmen" wearing white galabiyas — apparently typical dress of Moslem extremists.

The men opened fire with sub-machineguns from close range but ran away when Abu Basha's bodyguard returned fire, the source said. Police reported that a 10-year-old child playing nearby was wounded.

Abu Basha, a career police officer, became interior minister six months before Moslem extremists assassinated President Anwar Sadat at a military parade in Cairo on October 6, 1981.

As the minister responsible for

internal security, Abu Basha supervised a nationwide crackdown on a fundamentalist Moslem group, the Islamic Jihad, which the government blamed for Sadat's slaying and a subsequent abortive coup attempt.

About 5,000 persons were rounded up and alleged members of the group were brought to trial in two separate cases, one involving Sadat's assassination and the other the abortive coup attempt.

Five men were sentenced to death and executed and another 17 received long prison terms in the Sadat case. Of 300 people tried in the other case, 107 received prison terms and the rest were freed.

During the coup attempt trial, Abu Basha came under fire from dozens of defendants who claimed they had been tortured by police officers while in custody.

A statement issued by the court after the trial confirmed that some prisoners had been tortured and urged the government to investigate and punish those responsible.

(Reuters, AP)

U.S. seeks Soviet help to isolate Iran, end Gulf war

By DAVID HOROVITZ

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
LONDON. — The Soviet Union is helping the U.S. in its efforts to isolate Iran and thus pave the way for an end to the Gulf War, in return for U.S. agreement to Soviet representation at a Middle East peace conference, according to reports circulating here.

The U.S. is said to have given priority to isolating Iran — attempting to wean it away from both the Syrians and the Libyans — even if this can only be achieved with Soviet help, and at the cost of Soviet participation in Middle East peace talks.

The success of the U.S. policy is said to be

evidenced by last week's meeting between Iran's main Arab ally, Syrian President Hafez Assad, and Iraq's President Saddam Hussein, which ended with a reported agreement to end the war of words between the two governments.

According to a report in the *Independent* newspaper yesterday, last week's meeting was arranged by Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union, the only two countries with any real influence in Damascus, by virtue of their respective subsidies and arms supplies to Syria.

U.S. officials, furthermore, are reportedly delighted by Col. Gaddafi's decision to allow

the PLO to reopen its offices in Tripoli, seeing in this step evidence of diverging views between Iran and Libya.

Gaddafi and the Iranian leadership have been steadfastly opposed to Yasser Arafat's twin-track policy of negotiation against a background of continuing terrorist action. The Gaddafi decision implies that he has moved closer to the Arafat view, away from that of the Iranians.

The U.S. reportedly hopes that an isolated Iran, left without Syrian or Libyan backing would be unable to resist superpower pressure for an end to the Gulf fighting and a negotiated settlement.

The overwhelming U.S. desire to bring the Gulf war to an end has led it to agree to the Soviets attending Middle East peace talks, the reports here added.

The Soviets, for their part, are said to have informed Syria that they are contemplating renewed relations with Israel and that the time is ripe for change in the Middle East.

These maneuverings are said to have increased the pressure on Britain to mitigate its tough post-Hindawi stand on relations with Syria. In the recent past, Arab and European governments have urged it to soften its line. Now it seems as if the Americans might make such a request as well.

Casey's reign as CIA chief marked by many controversies

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — In his controversial reign as CIA director, William Casey thrust the spy agency into Third World brushfire wars, clashed with Congress and the press on secrecy issues and tangled with Iran arms-scandal investigators.

Casey, 74, died early yesterday in a Glen Cove, New York hospital, one day after congressional hearings into the scandal opened in Washington. The immediate cause of death was pneumonia, a hospital spokeswoman said.

The first witness at the hearings, retired Major-General Richard Secord, testified that government officials, including Casey, had helped in the operation to supply weapons to the Nicaraguan rebels after Congress had prohibited such aid.

As CIA chief from January 1981 to January 1987, when a brain tumour forced his resignation, he boosted the CIA budget and presided over its return to vigour after years on the defensive.

But his stewardship came under fire late in 1986 during inquiries into the secret sales of arms to Iran when it was reported that CIA bank accounts in Switzerland were used as part of a scheme to divert arms sales profits to Nicaraguan rebels.

Casey maintained he had only peripheral knowledge of the arms deals and nothing to do with the possibly illegal shunting of up to \$30 million to the U.S.-backed Contras.

Critics sought his resignation, saying that as the top U.S. intelligence-gatherer he should have known about the Iran-Contra affair — and if he did, he may have broken laws.

Even as controversy swirled around his conduct, Casey was found to be seriously ill and underwent surgery last December to remove a cancerous tumour from his brain. Doctors said they were not able to remove it all, however.

He submitted his resignation in late January 1987.

A self-made millionaire tax lawyer from New York, he was chosen to run Reagan's successful 1980 presidential campaign and the two conservatives saw eye-to-eye. The new president named Casey as head of the CIA in 1981, brushing aside the charge he was "politicizing" the agency.

With Reagan's blessing, Casey quickly revived a policy that had led to bitter dissension in the past: CIA backing of anti-Communist rebel groups in the Third World.

President Reagan said yesterday that America had lost a patriot "and the cause of freedom an able champion" with Casey's death. Reagan's White House statement added that "Nancy and I have lost a long-time supporter... and a good friend."

55 dead in Indonesia landslide

PADANG, Indonesia (AP). — The death toll from a landslide in West Sumatra reached 55 yesterday as rescue workers searched around the clock for more than 40 other people believed still buried under mounds of earth and rocks.

A rescue team spokesman said 23 of 51 injured people were treated and released and 28 remained hospitalized.

FOREIGN BRIEFS

Vietnam boat people may visit homeland

HANOI (AFP). — Vietnam said yesterday that hundreds of thousands of so-called boat people who left Vietnam after the fall of the former South Vietnamese regime in 1975 can return to their homeland as tourists.

Nhan Dan, the official organ of the Vietnamese Communist Party, said the decision was in line with a council of ministers resolution on April 11 which called for developing the country's tourist industry.

"Vietnamese living abroad, whatever their date or means of departure from Vietnam are authorized to come back as tourists to visit the country, their relatives and tourist and historical sites," the newspaper said.

Visa formalities would also be relaxed for other categories of tourists, the newspaper reported.

Hashish-laden asses seized in Portugal

LISBON (AFP). — Portuguese police last weekend seized a convoy of hashish-laden donkeys that drug traffickers were trying to lead across the Spanish border in the northeast of the country, a police spokesman said Tuesday. The smugglers of the 287-kilo bid got away.

Zeebrugge ferry disaster toll now 186

ZEEBRUGGE (AP). — The confirmed death toll in the March 6 ferry disaster off this North Sea port rose to 186 yesterday when officials reported finding three more bodies on nearby beaches.

The day the ship was pulled into Zeebrugge, an inquiry into the disaster opened in London at which Townsend Thoresen staff have admitted leaving the bow loading door open as the ship left port, which caused water to rush into the car decks.

Spanish worker dies after clash

MADRID (AFP). — A Spanish steel worker wounded during clashes with police died early yesterday, becoming the first casualty since the start of a wave of social unrest in Spain two months ago, press reports said. More than 100 people have been wounded during the clashes.

The worker, Gonzalez Garcia, 32, had been seriously wounded on April 16 during clashes with the para-military civil guard at Reinos, northern Spain.

Challenger astronaut's widow sues for \$1.5b.

ORLANDO, Florida (Reuters). — The widow of Challenger astronaut Michael Smith yesterday filed a \$1.5 billion lawsuit against the U.S. government, rocket builder Morton Thiokol Inc. and a former top manager of the U.S. space agency.

The suit, filed in the Orlando Federal Court, accused Thiokol of "reckless disregard" for the lives of the astronauts when it built the booster rockets that were later blamed for the destruction of the space shuttle Challenger on January 28, 1986.

Sudan rebels shoot down civilian airliner

NAIROBI (AFP). — The rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) claimed responsibility yesterday for the shooting down of a civilian aircraft near the southern Sudanese town of Malakal Tuesday evening, killing 13 people.

It also warned that a similar fate awaited any other aircraft that entered airspace over territory controlled by its forces. Last August, the SPLA shot down a civilian Fokker Friendship plane, also near Malakal, killing more than 60 passengers and crew.

Goa to become India's 25th state

NEW DELHI (Reuters). — The former Portuguese enclave of Goa, now one of India's most popular vacation resorts, will become the country's 25th state, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported yesterday.

PTI said statehood for the 3,813 sq. km. territory, currently administered by the central government, was approved at a cabinet meeting and a statehood bill would be introduced into parliament, possibly in the current session.

China, Bulgaria normalize ties

BEIJING (AFP). — The Communist parties of China and Bulgaria restored ties here yesterday on the second day of an official visit by President Tudor Zhivkov, marking a full reconciliation between China and the Eastern bloc countries.

A Bulgarian spokesman said after talks between Zhivkov, who is also party chief, and Zhao Ziyang, Chinese premier and acting party secretary-general, that the meeting showed that party ties had been revived.

U.S. begins processing thousands of illegal aliens

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — Illegal aliens by the thousands came out of hiding across the U.S. Tuesday to tell the government who they are and apply for citizenship.

The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) said it expected 3.9 million of an estimated six million illegal aliens in the country to seek amnesty in the next year.

More than 100 special INS offices began processing applicants.

For the next 12 months, people who came to the country on or before January 1, 1982, and who have remained illegally may ask for temporary legal residence. If accepted, they begin a process which could eventually make them naturalized citizens.

INS officials in Chicago said the first applicant processed in the city was Krystyna Swiatek, 35, a cartographer and surveyor from Warsaw who came to the U.S. as a visitor in 1979 and remained as an illegal resident. "Finally I'm getting what I want," she said.

The law was enacted in a bid to stop the flow of illegal aliens. Among other things, it requires businesses to obtain proof from their employees that they are legal residents, or face fines.

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Shin Bet at the Crossroads

Ze'ev Schiff

Possible Agreement

(Shamir-Peres)/Yael Marcus

Betar —

Go For It

Jerusalem Champs

Mordechai Arizeli

The Black Hole

Chat with Gracow University Rector

on Polish Jewry /Roman Priester

Two Peoples in One Moshav /San Kivler



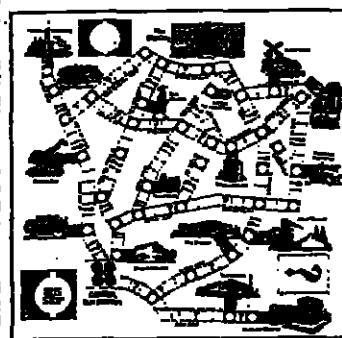
Swan Lake

Agam-Goren sculpture

David Elorich

A. Schweitzer on Investigating Commissions • Yosef Toker on the Barbi Trial • Lili Galili on the Second Channel • Michael Ohad on Kafka's America • Political Sources/Alvira Eldar • Party Corridors/Ilan Shalom • Whistling in the Dark/Gideon Samet • Safety Vault/Neelima Strosser • Yehuda Shamoni, Yonatan Sherman • Knesset Rush/B. Michael • Week's T.V./Hedda Bosha

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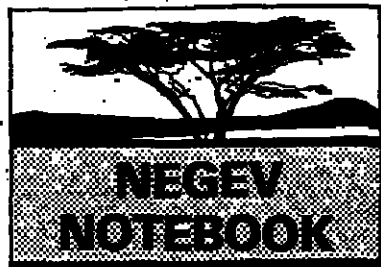
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A boon to tourism or an open invitation to criminals?

The odds for and against an Eilat casino



Bradley Burston

DEEP IN THE posh bowels of one of Eilat's most luxurious hotels lurks a well-kept architectural secret. A reception hall, high-ceilinged and handsome, currently caters to the likes of wee-hour diners and dancers, upmarket wedding bashes, and the occasional circumcision. But a glance at the hotel's blueprints confirms that the room was intended for rather a different purpose. The precise, angular calligraphy reads simply, "casino."

The idea of operating games of chance in Israel's southernmost city is not a new one, and both foreign and domestic investors have come to believe that the concept could prove wildly profitable.

Nevertheless, existing gambling proposals — a fistful of suggestions going back over several years — seem helplessly, immutably tethered to an inter-ministerial wheel of fortune that occasionally slows down but never comes to rest.

DESPITE, or perhaps because of, the lack of high-level initiative in the decision-making sphere — something of the administrative equivalent of roulette played without the ball — some Eilat boosters see the present government as the last, best hope to legalize the concept of green felt by the Red Sea.

An executive of one of the largest beachfront hotels believes that if a proposed casino gambling ordinance ever manages to clear its present Knesset committee hurdle, tacit government approval might result from what he terms the "hot potato effect."

"No one wants to touch the question of gambling, so that at this point there may be no one willing to personally oppose it," he says.

"As it stands, if you ask the Commerce and Industry Ministry to approve a licence for opening a business, they'll refer you to the Justice Ministry for a legal ruling. The Justice Ministry, it turns out, will send

you to the Interior Ministry to see about approval of local ordinances.

"Then the Interior Ministry will tell you that they have nothing to do with it, and they'll suggest you see either Commerce and Industry or Tourism. Since Tourism is the only one you haven't tried, you go there, only to receive a polite, firm 'no comment.'"

Negev businessman Yitzhak Rager, consultant to the government corporation that promotes and oversees the development of Eilat's beachfront hotel district, contends that the recent and possibly temporary exit of Yitzhak Peretz (Shas) from the Interior Ministry may present a now-or-never opportunity for the passage of a local casino ordinance.

"Assuming that Rabbi Peretz or someone like him will one day again become minister, I cannot in my wildest dreams conceive of him agreeing to any project that allows or includes a casino. Bear in mind that cities depend on the Interior Ministry for a large chunk of their budget. Given the present reality, right now is the appropriate moment for someone to launch a casino. The opportunity may not return for decades."

THOUGH critics of legalized gambling contend that large-scale vice operations involving narcotics, prostitution and other manifestations of organized crime are an inevitable by-product of casino districts, proponents maintain that reasonably strict controls have been achieved in

many countries, if not in the U.S.

"I won't deny that organized crime exists in Israel," says the hotel executive. "But it lacks both the power and the organization that makes it uncontrollable in America. Along with that, said to say, we already have a certain amount of drugs, prostitution, etc., without the additional tax revenue from gambling that could be used to improve police services."

To critics who argue that gambling would represent a cruel temptation to financially hard-pressed Israelis, Rager replies: "We're fooling ourselves if we think there's no gambling in this country. You can't turn on the television without hearing, 'Buy another Toto, fill out Lotto.' Last week I saw a factory worker buy NIS 172 in Lotto lottery tickets. Over one hundred dollars worth. We gamble in a big way here."

The "fig leaf" for such betting schemes is Lotto and kerbside "scratch card" sales tables of Magen David Adom and the Soldiers' Wel-

fare Committee, is that it's all for a good cause, Rager continues. "So my fig leaf for Eilat is that the income will boost Israel's foreign currency reserves and help save the government's declining budget."

WILL big-time casino gambling make a go of it where off-shore gaming ships and other past ventures sank ignominiously into terminal debt?

Rager has little doubt the answer is yes. "It's an unfortunate truth that tourists like to gamble and that gambling draws tourists. In Eilat this is particularly important, because one of our biggest concerns is what does the tourist do when he gets out of the water."

If statistics are any measure, the appetite of Israelis for games of chance is fully as robust as that of the foreign tourist. Last year, for example, Mifal Hapayis took in over NIS 230 million. Add to that the astronomical sums dropped by Sportoto addicts, supporters of a plethora of other charitable concerns, and the patronage of as many as 500 illegal betting parlours nationwide, and the national estimate for total annual gambling revenues approaches NIS 1 billion.

Last year alone, police detectives raided 178 impromptu casinos throughout Israel.

Nevertheless, if an Eilat gambling proposal currently before a Knesset committee is authorized, the demonstrated thirst of Israelis for Las Vegas/Atlantic City table stakes may remain unslaked this side of New Jersey. The proposal, strongly backed by Eilat Mayor Rafi Hochman, by local hoteliers, and by Economics Minister Gad Ya'acobi, would restrict casino use to tourists bearing foreign passports.

And, despite Hochman's strenuous efforts earlier this week to lobby for the bill, bookies are not overly optimistic on the chances for a swift passage.

Mission of mercy

GEORGE MANTELLO-Mandel was here last week, to attend a ceremony at Haifa University in which he was formally thanked for transferring his war-time archive to the Holocaust Research Institute of the university. The documents, packed in a suitcase, were recently recovered from among the belongings of distant relative of Mantello's in Bnei Brak. They tell the story of a single man's campaign to save the Jews of Budapest.

Born in a little town in Transylvania, into a family many of whose members were rabbis, Mantello, early in life, moved to Bucharest where he became a prominent businessman. Later he became El Salvador's honorary consul.

When the rumblings of the European war came ominously near the Romanian capital, Mantello realized the impending danger and moved to Sweden, where he became ambassador to the El Salvadoran embassy.

His first move was to save his parents. He sent them appropriate documents through a friendly Romanian diplomat. But it soon transpired that he was too late: his parents were already in a death camp. Realizing the sands were rapidly running out, Mantello moved energetically. Salvadoran passports were sent to Nazi-occupied Budapest. Swedish, even Swiss, diplomats did their best to rescue Jews. But Mantello's main efforts were directed to winning the support of the press.



George Mantello

The story of the systematic exterminations was sent to the Western press first by the representative of the Exchange Telegraph agency in Bern.

Had the Jewish organizations acted more vigorously at the time, many Jews would have escaped the fate the Nazis planned for them, Mantello believes.

The Nazis were obviously uneasy about the press campaign. "Goeb-



Sraya Shapiro

bels' deputy, called a press conference in Berlin, highbidding reports of mass killing. He would only admit 'that the Jews were separated from other inhabitants.' It is a fact, however, that the plans to deport the Jews of Budapest were halted, probably on the instructions of Hungary's dictator. At about the same time the Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg was posted to Budapest.

After the war, Mantello settled in Rome, where he lives in a villa in the Appian Way. He has little contact with the Jewish establishment, but the 399 articles published through his efforts in Swiss periodicals many have contributed to saving many Jewish lives.

DR. HILDEGARD Hamm-Brucher, member of the West German Bundestag, was here, too, last week. A Liberal, she was for several years, a member of the Cabinet in charge of cultural affairs. Here on one of her frequent visits to Israel, she met a number of university professors to share with them her reflections on the growing trend among German historians to gloss over the Hitler years. The encounter was held under the auspices of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation at the Goethe Institute in Tel Aviv.

"I understand the desire of German intellectuals to be proud of their past; indeed, I am proud of it, too. But this is not an excuse to veil periods in our history which no decent human being can approve of. Hitler was bad enough without the gas chambers, even with the positive acts that may be credited to him."

Dr. Brucher was born in Berlin, but, having lost her parents when she was very young, she was raised by her grandparents in Dresden. "I knew very few Jews. But I was very early in my life, anti-Hitler. The burning of books by Jewish authors probably aroused me to the danger."

As a student in a Catholic establishment for young women "we often criticized Hitler strongly. It was quite dangerous. But no, we did nothing beyond that. How could we?"

ATHLETICS

Records smashed

By PAUL KOHN

TEL AVIV. — Several records were shattered last night, as the Hapoel Games athletics got under way at the glittering Ramat Hayosef running track.

Brian Cooper, 21, a communications student at McReese University ran the fastest 100m. ever seen in Israel, timing 10.37 seconds, thus bettering the 10.38 record set in 1985 by the great Cameron Sharp.

Cooper's fellow-American, Wallace Spearman, a student at Arkansas University, timed 10.39.

Cooper timed 10.08 four weeks ago in Texas, which makes him the second fastest man in the world today. "I would have done better here, if I had not suffered from jet lag," he told me.

Nicolita Caracagiu, 23, of Rumania, with 56.53 and Erica Szopori of Hungary with 57.89, shattered the all-comers record for the 400m.

BASKETBALL

Canada stake claim

By FAITH SPECTOR

Israel's new look basketball team showed last night at Jerusalem's Goldberg Sports Palace that they have a long way to go to reach the standard necessary for next month's European Cup, as they succumbed to the Hapoel Games tournament to West Germany 100-89.

The Germans were too tall, too strong and too athletic for the Israelis, who trailed most of the time by 12 to 14 points, although at one stage in the second half they closed the gap to five. At the half the score was 52-40.

Mercer scored 25 and Jamchee 24. For Germany, Jacke got 30.

In the opening match, Canada beat Poland 102-93, after leading 45-35 at the half, thereby staking their claim to be potential champions in the tournament, especially as they overcame Israel in a friendly game on the previous night.

For Canada, their captain Jay Triano scored 29 points, Eli Pasquale 19 and Karl Tilleman 18.

Poland's star was their captain, Dariusz Zelig, with 32 points. Zelig, 30 years old, has been in the national side for 9. Midway through the second half he made a gallant bid to save the game and brought Poland to three points behind Canada, 62-59.

women's hurdles record.

Margrit Klinger, 26, of West Germany established a new record of 4:13.32 in the 1,500m. Beverly Nicholson of England was second and Isabel de Brueber of Belgium third.

Klinger told me, "I'm delighted with the fine weather and the track conditions here." This was for her, as for most of the athletes, her first outing of the season.

Jillian Richardson of Canada won the women's 100m. in 11.4, with Pippa Wendle of England second.

Two Britishers, Geoffrey Whitehead and Nick Peach were 1st and 2nd in the 10,000m., with Yair Karni of Israel third. Whitehead's time was 30:2.44.

Poland's Stanislaw Gorak took the men's javelin title with a throw of 67.74m., with Frank Stockman of Belgium 2nd and Ami Bar-Am of Israel 3rd.

But Pasquale then sank two quick baskets, and these broke the Poles' resistance. For Poland, Dariusz Szczubial scored 21.

Bob Westlake, the assistant Canadian coach, was delighted with his team's performance. He said that they are a young team, as most of the top Canadians are still playing in Europe.

In a friendly game against Canada at Holon on Tuesday night, Israel lost 101-98, after leading 58-54 at the half. Until the break the Israelis had a fantastic game, particularly Yaron Jamchee the captain, who ended with 34 points, but they ran out of steam in the early part of the second half and sank to being 97-82 down. Then they showed great grit and determination to take the score to a mere one-point deficit, 99-98, but the final effort was beyond them.

Nevertheless, both Zvi Sherf and Ralph Klein were very pleased by the Israelis' performance, particularly their speed and their revival at the end. In the first half, Sherf made many changes to give everyone a chance. Klein commented that only Mercer picked up rebounds on attack, and that Israelis have a great problem against a team like Canada — they have only two tall men, Mercer and Lassoff.

BASEBALL

Orioles' rookie loses no-hitter in 9th

NEW YORK (AP). — Baltimore rookie Eli Bell lost his no-hitter in the ninth inning, but at least he didn't lose the game.

Bell took a five-run lead into the final inning, but Tom Nieto's bloop single started a four-run rally and it took five Orioles pitchers to hold off the Minnesota Twins 5-4 on Tuesday night.

In other American league games it was California 2, Milwaukee 0; Chicago 2, New York 0; Boston 6, Oakland 0; Seattle 7, Detroit 3; Kansas City 6, Toronto 4; and Texas 6, Cleveland 5 in 10 innings.

Tim Lincecum doesn't consider himself a true home run hitter and

Danny Darwin isn't much of a hitter at all. But Raines hit another game-winning home run and Darwin went 3-for-3 to help their teams win.

Raines continued his storybook return after missing spring training and the first month of the season. His third home run in four games was a tie-breaking shot leading off the seventh inning, which led the Montreal Expos to a 6-4 victory over the Atlanta Braves.

The New York Mets were blanked for the second game in a row, losing to Cincinnati 2-0. In other National League games, it was Los Angeles 3, Chicago 1; San Francisco 18, St. Louis 6; and Pittsburgh 16, San Diego 8.

NHL PLAYOFFS

EDMONTON, Alberta (AP). — Greg Stefan turned in a strong performance in goal as the Detroit Red Wings stomped the Edmonton Oilers 3-1 on Tuesday night in the opener of their National Hockey League semifinal playoff series.

Stefan was making his first appearance in six games after a run-in with Detroit coach Jacques Lemaire.

ENGLISH SOCCER. — A goal by Dean Saunders one minute from time clinched a 3-2 victory for Oxford United at Luton on Tuesday night and kept his team in the First Division.

Oxford's victory means Manchester City, Leicester and Charlton will fight out the last two relegation places.

In another Division One game, Wimbledon beat Chelsea 2-1.

Division Two results: Blackburn 1, Birmingham 0; Gillingham 2, Hull 2 (Gillingham relegated); Millwall 1, Sunderland 1; Shrewsbury 2, Oldham 0.

NBA PLAYOFFS

NEW YORK (AP). — The Seattle SuperSonics have been so surprising in the National Basketball Association playoffs that they've even stunned themselves.

The Sonics have made everyone take notice with their romp through two of the league's Texas Teams. After upsetting the Dallas Mavericks in the first round, Seattle grabbed a 2-0 lead in a Western Conference semifinal series with Houston by beating the Rockets 99-97 on Tuesday night.

Lakers 125, Warriors 116

Celtics 111, Bucks 98

Hawks 115, Pistons 102



TODAY'S EVENTS

Athletics: Hapoel Ramat Hayosef stadium. 18:00 Men: 200m, 1,500m, 3,000m. Steeplechase. Shot put, hammer, Women: 400m, 800m, long jump, high jump, shot put, heptathlon (18:00), long jump, javelin.

Swimming: Tel Aviv University. 10:00 preliminaries. 16:00 final men: 200m, backstroke, 300m, medley, 4 x 100m, medley, Women: 400m, freestyle, 200m, butterfly, 100m, breaststroke, 4 x 100m, medley.

Basketball: Hapoel Ramat Hayosef. Men: 18:30 Canada-W. Germany 20:30 Israel-Poland. CSFT Championship: Nahariya 18:30 France-Belgium. 19:30 Israel-Switzerland, 20:30 Italy-Portugal. Women: 18:30 Israel-Mexico, 19:30 Israel-Hungary, 20:30 Israel-Mexico, 21:30 Israel-Belgium.

Handball: CSFT. Men: Kibbutz Le Zion (Group A) 17:30 Portugal-France, 20:30 Switzerland-Israel, Ramat Hayosef (Group B): 17:30 Italy-Hungary, 19:30 Denmark-Austria, Women: Kibbutz Le Zion, 19:30 Denmark-Holland, Ramat Hayosef, 20:30 Switzerland-Austria.

Water polo: at Wingate Institute. 10:30 Israel A - Israel B, 16:00 Italy-Israel, 19:30 W. Germany-Israel A 20:45 Hungary-Italy.

Weight lifting: Tel Kabir. 18:30 up to 52 Kg. class, 56kg., etc.

Cycling: From Upper Nazareth to Karmiel start at 08:30 via Afeka, Tiberias and Safed (120K.m.) Gymnastics: CSFT: Goldberg Sports Centre in Jerusalem (Mallat) from 11:00 (17:00 men's events and women's individual events, preliminaries).

Tennis: Hapoel Tel Aviv courts men's and women's singles.

Table Tennis: Kibbutz Le Zion. 09:00 early rounds singles (men/women), 17:00 singles, quarter-finals, doubles (men/women), 17:00 singles. Shooting: at Herzliya and Ramatana at 09:00. Judo: at Beit Ussishkin from 15:00 onwards. Karate: Tel Aviv University from 18:30. Sailing: Sotah Yachot at 10:00 and 15:00. Fencing: Acre from 18:30. Volleyball: women at Karmiel Moshim from 19:00. Badminton: Sotah Yachot from 09:00, doubles final at 16:00. Archery: from 09:30.

RESULTS

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: Elitzur-Maccabi, 83-61 (40-33); Hapoel-Spartak (Belgium): 93-64 (51-33).

HANDBALL (CSFT): Men: (Group A) Switzerland-France 20-19; Israel-Portugal 24-17; (Group B) Netherlands-Denmark 18-14; Austria-Italy 29-18.

Women: (Group A) Switzerland-Denmark 16-16; (Group B) Holland-Israel 12-11.

WATER POLO: Hapoel Ramat Hayosef youth team 17-2; Surrey (Italy)-Israel A 20-13; Turguram (Hungary)-Hapoel 7-7.

CYCLING: 60 km. classification race: 1. Reinhold Eiler (W. Germany), 2. Marco Dickermann (Luxembourg), 3. Freddy Gansner (Switzerland), 4. Yehuda Gershoni (Hapoel Ramat Hayosef).

TABLE TENNIS (Team event) Men: Israel-W. Germany 5-4; France-Israel B 5-1; Israel C-Israel B 5-1; France-Italy 5-6; Italy-Israel C 5-0.

Women: Israel-W. Germany 3-2. BADMINTON: (Men's singles) Simeon Rodin (US), Rami Schickman, Amir and Reuven Moses (Israel) all reached the semi-finals. (Women's singles) Sigalit Moses Bruma, Irit Shushan and Shirley Daniel (all from Israel) reached the semi-finals.

SHOOTING: Ed Papirer (Israel) established a Hapoel Games record in the prone rifle. He scored 596 points (previous record 575 p.p.) and set a new Hapoel Games record — 593 points and Thomas Hauberg (Germany FR) won the bronze — 592 points. Hans Kishnitski (Israel) won the gold medal in the women competition and set a new Hapoel Games record — 588 (previous record — 583 points). The silver went to Ronit Finkelshtain (Israel) — 582 points and the bronze to Ofra Alon (Israel) — 580 points.

ARCHERY: men's 90m. — Andrea Lorenz of Italy won the gold medal, scoring 280 points. Second was Israel's Ilan Nakash (272) and third Dale Hughes from Britain (259). Women's 70m. — Britalia made a clean sweep of the medals, with Pauline Edwards winning the gold (305 points), Joyce Jones the silver (281) and Eleanor Williams the bronze (284).

SPORTOTO

Due to the Hapoel Games, there are no local soccer games this weekend. The Sportoto coupon is comprised of matches in the English first and second division.

	Single	Forma-
	line	tion
1. Arsenal v. Norwich	1	1
2. Charlton v. QPR	1	1
3. Coventry v. Southampton	1	1X
4. Everton v. Luton	1	1
5. Man. Utd v. Aston Villa	1	1
6. Notts Forest v. Newcastle	1	1X
7. Oxford v. Leicester	1	1
8. Sheffield W. v. Wimbledon	1	X2
9. Watford v. Tottenham	1	X
10. West Ham v. Man. City	1	X
11. Brighton v. Leeds	2	2
12. Chelsea v. Blackburn	1	1
13. Derby v. Plymouth	1	1
14. Ipswich v. Reading	1	1

A pianist worth watching

JEKUSALEM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. IBA. INDEPENDENCE EVE CONCERT. Mendel Rodan conducting, with Ran Zemach, piano. (Hebrew Crown Hall, May 3) Ben-Haim: "Psalms" from Symphony No. 1; Chopin: Piano Concerto No. 1 in E minor, op. 11; Beethoven: Symphony No. 5 in C minor, op. 67.

THE BEN-HAIM work made a fine opener for this concert, providing a more well-rounded vignette of this country's first symphonic composer than his often-heard *Fanfare to Israel*. Its introspective moments were well-balanced against its stirring aural gestures in a warm and tasteful reading by Rodan and the orchestra.

Before talking about the Chopin, the point must be made that the hall's aged concert grand can no longer render service with dignity. Its tone varies wildly among the different registers, none of which is much good any more, and it is an insult to artists expected to make music with it.

However, 18-year-old Ran Zemach is on his way to becoming a pianist to reckon with. The first

movement was unstable, as pianist and orchestra seemed to have different ideas about its interpretation.

Much of the latter's aggressive quality fell away in the second movement, which the conductor justifiably relinquished to the soloist, who then went on to score high marks with his sensitive, elegant and warmly romantic reading.

With the last movement, the problems of the first returned, neither its recurring thematic material nor the interspersed episodes receiving sufficient coloristic distinction as the conductor again steamed ahead.

The programme notes spoke eloquently of audience over-familiarity with the Beethoven Fifth. This is an honest problem, but one not solved by Rodan's capricious jaunt through all but the second and some of the third movements. With vehicular traffic as with drug abuse, speed kills, nor by itself does it necessarily contribute much to Beethoven. ARIEH LICHT

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Strong Japanese demand this year Diamond sales set to top \$2b.

By SIMON LOUISON
For The Jerusalem Post

RAMAT GAN. — The diamond industry, like trading in precious metals, has been riding high on the battered U.S. dollar. But unlike precious metals, whose prices have been boosted by inflation fears, diamond sales have been strengthened by growing Japanese demand, fuelled by the rising value of the yen, industry sources say.

Diamond exports are on track to top \$2b. this year. Sales for March were up 39 per cent on last year at \$187.1m., while those for the first quarter of the year are over \$500m., an increase of more than 26 per cent.

Sales for the first quarter of this year are running 25 per cent ahead of last year's buoyant market. However, there has been no commensurate movement in prices, and most of the extra sales have come from Japanese buyers taking advantage of the low value of the dollar against the yen.

Israeli Diamond Exchange president Moshe Schnitzer says diamonds are not seen by the public as a speculative product or a hedge against inflation, and that's the way he wants to keep it. He wants stability in prices rather than the ruinous roller coaster ride of the late 1970s. At that time diamonds were promoted by some as an investment, with disastrous results for the industry and a lot of attendant bad publicity.

Despite the new interest from Japan, a number of people within the industry here have some qualms about increasing the supply of diamonds on the market. De Beers, the main supplier of rough diamonds to the world market, sold around \$1.6b. of rough diamonds in 1985. Last year it increased to \$2.4b. and, with over \$1b. already sold, this year's total sales are likely to approach \$4b.

"It's an enigma how the market has absorbed it," says the manager of one leading exporter. "Like all markets it has to be at the cost of something else and in this case its profitability. It's simple supply and demand."

Partly compensating for the increase in supply by De Beers is the reduction of output by the Soviet Union. Although no figures are available, it is generally acknowledged the Soviets have reduced their supply because of the poor returns they are getting in dollar terms. In the past the Soviets were accused of dumping but they now have a more disciplined approach.

However, Schnitzer rejects criticism that De Beers is flooding the



A yen to buy: Japanese jeweller helps a customer, whose ability to buy diamonds and precious metals has been strengthened by the soaring value of the Japanese currency. (Reuters)

market. He says they are only responding to market demand and that prices in the U.S. have not increased because there is a limit to what Americans will pay for diamonds and because of the economic situation there.

"Demand for supply is very high. You can't blame them," he says.

In the American market much of the increased demand is a result of wholesalers enlarging their inventories, which they had let run down, rather than increasing sales in the retail market. Because diamond prices have stabilized wholesalers are no longer afraid to hold stocks and the prospect of higher inflation may encourage this.

But the rising price of gold causes problems for jewellers who are already planning for the Christmas rush. Higher gold prices mean the same jewellery item costs more and

many compensate by choosing a smaller diamond stone.

The main change in the Japanese market has been the greater interest in larger stones, in the lower-to-medium-carat sizes. Previously Japanese buyers dominated in quality stones, but now they are more in competition with American buyers.

While profit margins for Israeli manufacturers have been cut by the tied exchange rate and increased labour costs, higher turnover has partly compensated. One of the most healthy signs in the local industry is the low level of debt — around \$250 million on exports of \$1.6 billion last year, compared with \$1.2b. on exports of \$1.4b. in the late 1970s.

Most to benefit in this environment has been the small-to medium-sized operations, which have good manufacturing expertise, low overheads and low debt.

No quick solution to trade spat with Spain

By KEN SCHACHTER
For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. — Jerusalem and Madrid are unlikely to resolve their trade differences until 1990, when Spain is fully integrated into the European Community, Catalonia's minister of commerce and tourism said yesterday.

The minister, Joaquim Molins, said that Israeli and Spanish negotiators would be able to come to a rapid agreement on lowering bilateral tariff barriers but for the "intervention of EC authorities."

Molins and the president of Catalonia, Jordi Pujol, are in Israel to promote trade, tourism and cultural exchanges. Catalonia, the chief industrial region of Spain, was granted limited autonomy in 1980 after approval of a home-rule referendum.

Spain has been accepted for EC membership, but the absorption process will span several years. Although the lowering of trade barriers with its EC partners won't be complete for three years, Spain must get approval from the EC on any trade pact it signs with Israel. "Now we're not sovereign," Molins said in an interview after a speech at the Ramada Continental Hotel here.

But Ya'acov Arad, assistant to the director of the Israel Customs Office, was more optimistic, saying that an early resolution to the trade talks would "benefit both countries."

EC representatives based in Israel could not be reached for comment.

For Israeli consumers, a major benefit of a bilateral trade agreement would be a reduction in the duties on Spanish-made autos, including those made by Seat, based in Barcelona, Catalonia's largest city.

In January, Israel slashed the customs duties on EC-made cars — excluding Spain's — by 27 per cent.

Israeli exporters could benefit from an agreement through greater access to Spanish markets, particularly for agricultural products and textiles. The EC, however, has not granted Israeli producers unlimited access to its markets and is unlikely to allow Spain to exceed its own limits.

Last year, Spain ran a trade surplus with Israel amounting to about \$70 million according to the Israel Chamber of Commerce. One of the sticking points in trade negotiations is the effort by the Ministry of Industry and Trade to bring bilateral trade into balance.

THE TAX BURDEN / Jeff Broide

Recent developments

Here are some recent developments on the tax scene:

NON-PROFIT TAX YEAR: In the wake of Amendment 71, which altered the tax year-end for companies and individuals from March 31 to December 31, the tax authorities have finally clarified that the new tax year-end, is applicable to non-profit groups and public institutions as well. It is interesting to note that the stand of the tax authorities on this matter is very clear, namely that there will be no exceptions and that all such bodies must report through December 31, which includes the 1986 year just ended.

TAXPAYERS' RIGHTS: The income tax authorities have recently issued an internal directive governing the use of tax assessments according to the inspectors' judgment.

Generally the authorities may make such assessments when they have not received satisfactory explanations regarding a taxpayer's annual return, when a tax return has not been filed at all, or even where a taxpayer failed to appear at a meeting to which he has been invited to clarify matters concerning his return.

The consequences of this type of assessment are serious as the taxpayer has only one further level of appeal with the tax authorities before he must resort to the courts. Under normal circumstances a taxpayer may deal with the matter at a further level within the framework of the assessing office. However, the new directive instructs tax inspectors to allow taxpayers to present their "case" for not showing up at a particular meeting or to provide further explanations to the tax return. If the inspector is satisfied with the explanation, even after an assessment has already been made, the assessment can be cancelled and the taxpayer can start the process all over again.

Although this sounds technical, it is of the utmost importance for the taxpayer. Otherwise he may be forced to agree to tax assessments at a later stage under duress.

VAT ON NOTIONAL INTEREST: Section 31 of the Income Tax Ordinance levies tax on the profit received by a director or shareholder in lieu of a low-interest or interest-free loan provided by the company in which he or she holds at least 10 per cent of the share capital. Such notional interest is taxable in the hands of the shareholder, but alternatively the company may debit the shareholder with the interest due and credit his books of account accordingly. The law requires that such interest be at least equivalent to the change in the consumer price index during the period under review.

While such loans were once a useful tax planning device for such shareholders, in recent years this is no longer the case.

However, recently the value-added tax authorities have made such loans even less worthwhile. They hold that such notional interest is liable to VAT by the company and have, in many cases, issued demands for VAT payments.

Some tax experts take the view that such interest-free loans are employee benefits and not transactions granting credit. Therefore, they say, these loans should not be liable to VAT.

The matter is still under discussion between the VAT authorities and representatives of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Israel, but the VAT authorities continue to hold to their stand, particularly following a recent legal case in the matter.

In the meantime, prudent taxpayers would do well to formalize such loans, providing for payment of interest at the end of the loan period, say three years, and thus postpone the VAT liability as well.

1987 WITHHOLDING TAXES: Withholding Tax certificates (*shurim*) for the 1987 year are being issued automatically by the tax authorities — a change from previous years — with the amounts being fixed in accordance with the percentage paid for provisional tax payments (*mikdamot*). Taxpayers should check whether they have, in fact, received a certificate.

As regards exemption from withholding taxes, the Jerusalem tax office has instructed that in cases where a company has committed itself to pay monthly linked salaries to its shareholders and to deduct taxes accordingly, it is entitled to such exemption. However, the amount to be distributed as salary must be the profit as reflected for the 1985 tax year with the addition of salaries and related payments to directors and an additional 18 per cent (the rise in the consumer price index). All this is then divided by 12 to arrive at the monthly salary.

Corporations formed from previously existing businesses that then applied for an exemption receive similar rights. However, these will be based on the company's pre-incorporation operations.

As regards wholly new businesses, the company will have to obligate itself to pay a reasonable salary to its director or directors. The assessing officer will then grant reduced tax withholding or tax exemption for three months, at which stage an updated trial balance must be provided to obtain further approval.

Once again, these apparently technical matters are of some consequence to private companies and their shareholders.

REPORTING VAT: New regulations have been issued which enable certain small, and possibly medium-sized, taxpayers to report as of April every two months to the VAT authorities instead of monthly. To qualify, turnover for the period September 1, 1985 through August 31, 1986 did not exceed NIS 100,000.

This amendment is effective as of last month, which means that taxpayers entitled to report every two months will submit their March-April VAT reports on May 15, and similarly thereafter.

The writer is a Certified Public Accountant (Israel). Questions may be addressed to him c/o The Jerusalem Post.

WORLD BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Egypt premier: IMF to grant \$300m. loan

ABU DHABI (Reuters). — Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sedki was quoted yesterday as saying Egypt and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) would meet on May 15 to discuss a standby loan agreement, and he predicted a positive outcome.

Monetary sources in Washington said Tuesday that the IMF was set to approve by mid-May a \$300 million loan to assist economic reform in Egypt. Sedki confirmed an agreement had been reached in principle.

A subsequent meeting with the so-called Paris Club group of official creditors is scheduled for May 22 in Paris, he added.

Egypt has external debts of some \$38.6b. It has suffered in recent years from declining hard currency earnings from oil exports, tourism

and expatriate workers.

The IMF programme calls for cuts in energy subsidies and a unification of Egypt's multiple exchange rate system. Sedki was quoted as saying the exchange rate reforms would be applied first to tourists and expatriate Egyptians.

INTEREST RATES on three-year U.S. Treasury bonds rose sharply to 7.91 per cent, their highest yield in more than a year, in an auction Tuesday.

A total of \$10 billion worth of the bonds were sold for \$22.96b. in total bids. The three-year notes yielded 6.54 per cent in the last auction on February 3.

Tuesday's sale was the first of three auctions of long- and medium-term bonds to be held this week to raise \$29.5b. in what was seen by nervous investors as a test for the sagging U.S. dollar.

OPEC MINISTERS will consider raising the cartel's benchmark price of \$18 a barrel at their semiannual conference scheduled in Vienna June 25, Kuwait's oil minister was

quoted as saying yesterday.

Sheik Ali Khalifa Al-Sabah, in an interview with the newspaper *Al-Rai Al-Am*, did not say how much the hike would be, but he indicated the price could become \$20 and said he expected oil prices would "stabilize at the level of \$18-\$20 toward the end of the year."

The Kuwaiti minister downplayed the impact of the dollar's plunge on decisions of Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries oil ministers, saying "there is no reason for concern because the dollar fluctuates within a narrow margin."

JAPAN'S PRIME MINISTER Yasuhiro Nakasone said yesterday that talks with U.S. President Reagan resulted in some progress toward easing bilateral trade friction, but the overall result was "regrettable."

Nakasone, who returned Tuesday from his summit trip to Washington, expressed his disappointment over the talks in remarks to members of the budget committee of the upper house of parliament.

"There was some progress on several issues to strengthen U.S.-Japan relations," said Nakasone.



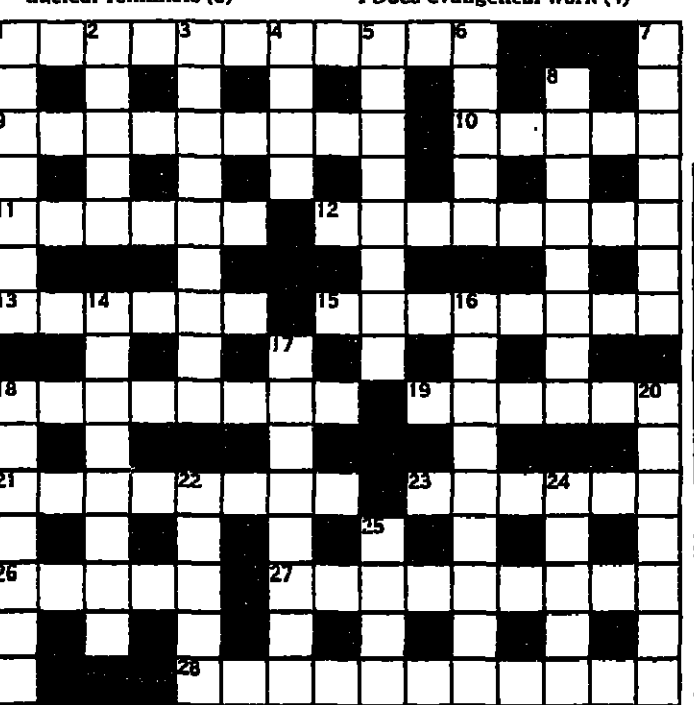
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Top-grade stock that should fetch a premium (5,6)
- 9 Sweet and sour dish for the storm-tossed sailor? (3,6)
- 10 Serving man who is prepared to issue a challenge (5)
- 11 Races of historic importance (6)
- 12 Plainly like the products of cottage industry? (8)
- 13 Bogus article for an Asian witch-doctor (8)
- 15 What the chief constable may do to break up a demonstration (3,5)
- 18 Common ground for anti-nuclear feminists (8)

DOWN

- 2 Small stones left at the end of a tomb (6)
- 21 I got sets in a mess for self-important people (8)
- 23 Patronising habit? (6)
- 26 Trader's claim to perfection? (5)
- 27 Efficacious worker (9)
- 28 Resourceful fellow (3,2,6)
- 1 Clerks who may mail bills? (7)
- 2 Rail union that is about to get used to things (5)
- 3 Troublesome result of overworking the pupils? (9)
- 4 Does evangelical work (4)

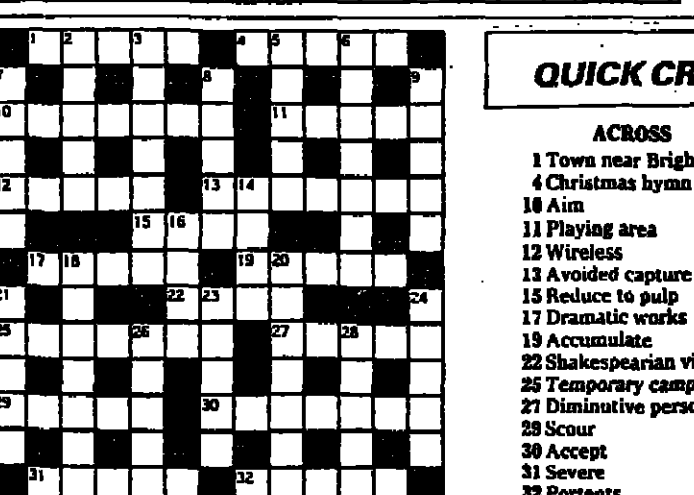


Yesterday's Solution

ENTRANCE CRATER
XERO
CANTICLE SPARKS
I
SCOUTLIGHT
E
ACHE NASTIER
R
C
ERICA UNDERHAND
E
O
REGARD SKYSCAPE

QUICK SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Cruise, 4 Alder, 8 Sloth, 9 Tuition, 10 Agitate, 11 Stow, 12 Pup, 14 Snip, 15 Lope, 18 Set, 21 Edam, 23 Amateur, 25 Earnest, 26 Adapt, 27 Theft, 28 Stress. DOWN: 1 Casual, 2 Utopian, 3 Schnapps, 4 Avid, 5 Drift, 6 Renown, 7 Steep, 13 Pleasant, 16 Prepare, 17 Reject, 19 Taste, 20 Grate, 22 Agree, 24 Jest.



QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Town near Brighton
- 4 Christmas hymn
- 10 Aim
- 11 Playing area
- 12 Wireless
- 13 Avoided capture
- 15 Reduce to pulp
- 17 Dramatic works
- 19 Accumulate
- 22 Shakespearean villain
- 25 Temporary camp
- 27 Diminutive person
- 29 Scour
- 30 Accept
- 31 Severe
- 32 Portents

DOWN

- 2 Was mistaken
- 3 Thrift
- 5 Savoury meat-jelly
- 6 Teasled mollusc
- 7 Lean
- 8 Harvest goddess
- 9 Rebuke
- 14 Green comorant
- 16 Continent
- 18 Young hare
- 20 Small quantity
- 21 Maltreat
- 23 Fruit of oak
- 24 Bid
- 26 Brown pigment
- 28 Foreign

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Founded in 1932 by GERSHON AGRON, who was Editor until 1955. Editor 1955-1974
TED LURIE. Editor 1974-1975. LEA BEN DOR. EDITORIAL OFFICES AND
ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, Romema, Jerusalem P.O. Box 81
(91000) Telephone 351616. Telex 26121. Fax 351670. TEL AVIV 9 Rehov Carlebach,
POB 20126 (61201) Telephone 394222. 398231-4 (six lines) Fax 203228. HAIIFA 16 Rehov
Nordau, Hadar Hacarmel, POB 4810 (31047) Telephone 954444 Fax 954446. Published
daily, except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Jerusalem Post Ltd. Printed by The
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Hitting back

THE series of attacks by the Air Force on PLO terrorist bases in southern Lebanon are intended to interdict planned hostile operations against Israel. But they also reflect a larger intention, namely to prevent the kind of terrorist buildup and infrastructure that was permitted to develop in that area before 1982.

There is little doubt that this is a PLO aim. But the hospitable conditions for that which once existed have largely disappeared.

If before 1982, the Lebanese government was too weak to prevent the growth of a PLO state-within-a-state, today there is virtually no Lebanese government at all. But rather than work in the PLO's favour this creates obstacles.

It means that the Sidon-Tyre region, where the PLO would like to reconstitute its bases, has more or less taken on the status of a no-man's land where violence is the norm. This pits the Palestinians, Amal, Hizbullah and others against each other, but it also enables Israel to strike back, when necessary, with political impunity.

For, if the shadow that today stands for a Lebanese government were to seek international sanction against Israel for such incursions, as before 1982, there would be little disposition anywhere to treat it seriously.

Moreover, Syria, the uneasy regent of Lebanon's political chaos, has no interest in permitting reestablishment of a PLO presence in the south or anywhere else. For that matter, this reluctance is shared as well by the various other communal groups which make up the Lebanese ethnic mosaic.

In sum, instability is now the only stable condition of Lebanon. This makes resort to violence endemic. But it also legitimizes the resort to counter violence by Israel. The PLO has little to look forward to in this circumstance.

Big brother

IN Moscow it would not be surprising for a foreign correspondent to be picked up by the police and questioned for conversing with an off-duty soldier in a cafe. In Jerusalem, fortunately, it is a surprise.

But it happened this week. The correspondent for the London Times, assigned to write a report about the feelings and views of young Israelis to mark the forthcoming 20th anniversary of the Six-Day War, was detained by the police. He was released only after he persuaded his interrogators that he was not probing his source for military information.

The incident raises awkward questions. How did the police know of the correspondent's whereabouts?

According to a police statement, they were alerted by a "citizen" who was suspicious. But why should a "citizen" be suspicious about a meeting in a public place like a cafe? Do the police routinely make arrests when a "citizen" calls in suspicions?

Presumably, the officials responsible do not believe that Israel is or should be a police state where the answers to all these questions amount to justification for treating foreign correspondents - and the locals with whom they associate - as enemies of the people.

The next time Police Minister Bar Lev is asked to prepare a speech about the plight of Soviet refuseniks, hounded as they are by the KGB when they try to talk to foreign correspondents, he would do well to ponder this incident in Jerusalem perpetrated by his officers. Better yet, he could denounce it as an aberration.

SHAMIR

(Continued from Page One)

region. Nor had Foreign Ministry Director-General Avraham Tamir protested when a Chinese leader told him that China did not intend to establish diplomatic relations with Israel. He merely told the Chinese leader the "matter would be pursued at some future date."

Shamir said it was still unclear how everyone except Israel defined the powers and prerogatives of the international conference: it was unclear how Palestinian Arabs would be represented; and it was still unclear what the Soviet Union intended to do.

"If the Soviet Union stays away, Jordan and Egypt will stay away too," he warned.

None of the big powers had been consulted about the form and purpose of bilateral talks in the committee. Shamir noted, "President Francois Mitterrand told me we must be joking to envisage an international conference that lacked authority. We have not heard what Russia, China and Britain think."

The document explaining the international conference and the bilateral talks was not an American document, he said, nor was it for-

SECORD

(Continued from Page One)

nians returned 17 of the 18 Hawks and refused to take delivery of the others.

The entire U.S. initiative towards Iran seemed on the verge of collapse following that Hawk delivery and the December 1985 meeting in London between U.S. and Israeli officials with the Iranian intermediary, Manucher Ghorbanifar.

But on January 17, Reagan authorized an intelligence "finding" that the covert initiative towards Iran should enter a second phase, without notifying Congress.

Secord said that winning the release of the hostages in Lebanon, as well as attempting to open a strategic dialogue with Iran, were the major U.S. motivations.

According to Secord, Schwimmer and the other Israelis involved in the unsuccessful November shipment had earlier deposited \$1 million in a Swiss bank account under the name of Lake Resources, Inc. That account was controlled by Secord and his Iranian-born partner, Albert Hakim. The money was supposed to

be used to pay for the transportation of the 80 Hawks to Iran.

But only \$200,000 were used for the first ill-fated shipment, leaving a balance of \$800,000 in the account. Secord said he had expected the Israelis to ask for a refund but Schwimmer told North that the U.S. could keep the money. North later told Secord that the money was used for the Contras.

"So Mr. Schwimmer made a contribution," Secord said.

There was some laughter and an audible stir among the senators, representatives, staff members and reporters packed into the Senate Caucus Room, the scene of the Senate Watergate hearings in the early 1970s.

Secord also said that the U.S. arms shipments to Iran in 1986 were deliberately routed through Israel - with Israel's authorization - so that Israel, not the U.S., would be blamed if the covert operation were compromised.

"Israel agreed to provide cover and could take the hit, if you will," the general said.

THE ABROGATION of the Hussein-Arafat agreement of February 11, 1985 was undoubtedly the major outcome of the Palestinian National Council (PNC) which ended its deliberations on April 26. Its import is the renunciation of UN Security Council Resolution 242 on which King Hussein has based his arguments for convening an international conference on the Middle East.

What prompted the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to torpedo any chance of success that such a conference might have?

The answer is to be found in the very definition of the Palestinians as "refugees" which appears in UN Resolution 242, while their international status has changed completely in the last 20 years: in UN Resolutions 2535 of December 10, 1969, and 2672 of October 8, 1970, the Palestinians were recognized as a people, and the PLO was later accorded permanent "observer" status at UN deliberations as the representative of the Palestinian people. Its right to self-determination, including by means of armed struggle, was spelled out in UN Resolution 3226, of November 22, 1974.

In other words, the PLO's participation in a joint Jordanian-

Palestinian delegation, as suggested by Hussein, would in advance deny the Palestinians the right to self-determination for which they have been fighting these 20 years. How are the delegations, and particularly the five permanent members of the Security Council, to overcome this central difficulty in the course of the conference? If we examine the position of the five permanent members of the Security Council, we will find that, with the exception of the U.S., they, in principle, support Palestinian self-determination in keeping with UN and other resolutions adopted in recent months. These include the resolution of the Islamic Conference in Kuwait on January 26, 1987; the resolution of the council of Europe, of February 23, 1987 which re-adopted the Venice Declaration of 1980; the statement made by Egypt's foreign

minister and by King Hussein at the conclusion of Peres's visit to Cairo on February 27, 1987; the statement issued by King Saud in London on March 24, 1987 and above all - the unanimous reiteration by the delegation of "authentic" Palestinians who met with Peres on March 26, 1987 that the PLO is the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

All these strengthened the resolve of the PLO leaders at the PNC in Algiers to undermine UN Resolution 242 in order to pave the way for PLO participation at the conference as the representative of a people, and not as refugees as would be the case in a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

This does not however mean a

The next move is up to Hussein

Shimon Tamir

complete break with the PLO's Jordanian partner without whom the Palestinians would not be able to take part in any political settlement in the region. Rather, the PLO's rejection of 242 means it will participate in an international conference only on an equal basis.

AND WHAT of the future of Jerusalem in the framework of the peace negotiations?

No one denies that the most serious stumbling block in the bargaining at the conference will be over the future of Jerusalem. Past attempts by the UN to accord the holy city a special international status known as *Corpus Separatum* did not, as is well known, succeed.

Jordan and the other Arab states see the unification of Jerusalem in 1967 as illegal according to international law. And they rely on Security

Council Resolution 476, of June 30, 1980, which states that all the steps that have been taken to change the status of Jerusalem after 1967 are null and void.

Israel, however, also relying on experts in international law such as Lauterpacht, contends that Israel's presence in Jerusalem is legal since it had to fill the vacuum left by the British in the city and moreover to defend its very existence in the wake of the united Arab attack against it. Whatever the case, a compromise on Jerusalem will have to be found, especially with respect to the sites holy to the three religions.

There can be no doubt that the rules of the game concerning an international conference have changed drastically as a result of the Algiers PNC meeting. The choice now facing Hussein is whether to agree to PLO participation in the conference as an equal party rather than an accompaniment, and thus forgo all hope of flexibility and compromise between the sides, or to show courage and conduct direct negotiations with Israel, according to the Camp David format. The ball, from now on, is entirely in Hussein's court.

The writer is a Jerusalem-based Orientalist and Economist.

READERS' LETTERS

PSYCHOLOGICAL SPECULATION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, - Thanks to Dan Kurzman for a thoughtful article on the problem of the territories ("Massada mentality", April 6).

Mr. Kurzman argues that Palestinians right today because they possess nothing and therefore have nothing to lose. Give them a state, he says, and they will behave peacefully, because they will not want to risk what they have to get what they cannot obtain. Neighbouring Arab states, he adds, will refrain from aggression because they will have no reason to be "more Catholic than the pope" in their hostility towards Israel.

Indeed, this interesting bit of psychological speculation lies at the heart of the pro-Palestinian state position in the debate over the territories, and Mr. Kurzman is to be commended for spelling it out. However, it does not stand up to careful analysis.

There are three assumptions, all of them doubtful, in Mr. Kurzman's argument. First, it is not so obvious that nations always behave in their own rational self-interest, especially when fierce nationalistic feelings are aroused. History affords numerous examples of impassioned folly on the part of governments.

Second, it is not so clear that the inhabitants of a Palestinian state would stand to lose their statehood in a war with Israel. Such a state would have the backing of all the major powers, as well as the other Arab countries. In the event of another war, in which the "Republic of Palestine" lent its support and its territory to attacking Arab nations, what would Israel do afterwards? - assuming that there would be an afterwards for us. Could we imagine

that the major powers would allow us to reoccupy the former territories, declaring that the whole idea of Palestinian independence had been an error? The big powers would be likely to guarantee the sovereignty of the new republic, and thus set the stage for the next war to liberate "all of Palestine."

Third, even if, and this is an enormous if, Mr. Kurzman's prediction about the peaceful behaviour of the Palestinian state were correct, how can he be so confident that the other Arab states would fall in line? Certainly the Arab states need no Palestinian national movement to inspire them to make war against us on four occasions in the past. Why should their future policy then be dictated by an Arab mini-state, particularly if the docility of the latter were based, as Mr. Kurzman argues, on fear of its own vulnerability?

A glance at the map attests to the advantage that Arab armies would enjoy by launching an attack from a hypothetical Palestinian state. Excluding ideological considerations, the pragmatic argument for retaining the territories thus rests on the principle of "extension for prevention."

All that Mr. Kurzman and others have said about the brutalizing effect of the occupation on Israeli society must be granted, but, for the foreseeable future, that may be part of the price that we shall have to pay for keeping our potential enemies at arms length. The alternative would be to compromise our precious security in playing psychologist to the leaders of a yet unborn neighbouring state.

LAURIN F. LEWIS

Rehovot.

A FAILED RESPONSE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, - In his forceful denunciation of secular humanistic Judaism ("The failed god" - March 24), Rabbi Carmel expresses his own feeling that there is room for dialogue, presumably between Orthodox and secular Jews. "We are ready," he says. "Are they?" The answer, I think, is: "Yes, but not on your terms."

The problem with many, though fortunately not all Orthodox spokesmen is that they are prepared for a dialogue between a missionary and a prospective convert. They are quite incapable of understanding that any dialogue must be based on the assumption that, while it is hard to imagine that one's own position could possibly be flawed, yet this is a possibility.

In his own eyes, Rabbi Carmel can only be right. He sees himself as the representative of normative Judaism, and his interpretation is the only one possible. On that basis, no dialogue is possible. Even good old Isaiah is recruited to argue with contemporary secularists, and the fact that he would be at a loss to understand our rabbi, never mind secularists, makes no difference. Any anachronistic nonsense goes.

Rabbi Carmel not only misunderstands Isaiah. He also misunderstands contemporary history. Secular Judaism did not fail, as he claims; it established the State of Israel, and Rabbi Carmel is one of its beneficiaries. What is increasingly problematic is the attempt of people like our rabbi to subvert the necessarily secular foundations of a democratic Israel in the name of a catholic Orthodoxy and thereby split the Jewish people.

Of course, the rabbi sees it the other way round. To him, there is satisfaction in what he sees as the spread of his type of Orthodoxy. But this is very doubtful: no one has actually shown how many converts to Orthodoxy there are, compared with the constant flow of people turning away from it, even today. One therefore judges on the basis of impressions: for instance the number of cars on our beaches on a summer Shabbat.

Nor is the picture in the Diaspora any different. Orthodoxy, despite its very considerable political clout, represents not more than 10-15 per cent of the Jewish people. Is Rabbi Carmel one of those who would say that all the others do not matter, and that they are not really Jews?

What is clear is that he and his kind are splitting the Jewish people, by arguing that his own brand of Judaism is the only true one and

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, - I feel that Professor Domb would have provided a more balanced view of the "vibrant upturn of Orthodoxy" (Letters - April 28) and the role of the yeshiva world in preserving the Jewish people and have avoided the charge of self-righteousness, had he also taken account of the following:

a. Most of the secularists of today are descended from the "vibrant Orthodoxy" of yesterday.

b. The *ba'al teshuva* movement should be set against those who are constantly leaving the Orthodox fold. I imagine even Professor Domb would agree that this is a more persistent and widespread phenomenon.

c. The yeshiva world has always been and still is characterized by a consistent and virulent opposition to Zionism, and if it had not been for the pioneering and self-sacrificing efforts of the "secular" *halutzim*, there would today be no state of Israel in which the yeshivot flourish as never before. Countless numbers of those who perished in the Holocaust would have come to build up Eretz Israel had their vibrantly Orthodox rabbinic leaders called

IS AMERICA EXILE?

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, - With reference to the question, "Is America exile?" I suspect that most Jews in America see themselves more as Jewish Americans than as American Jews. That is to say that they, as all Americans, have multiple identities - among them: religious, ethnic, political, professional and social.

While it is not inconceivable that latent anti-Semitism could one day rise to isolate and gravely harm the American Jew, it seems as likely that the American "majority" could gravely harm other "minorities" as well. In fact, the great diversity throughout the U.S. means that nearly all its citizens have both minority and majority identities.

Thus, all Americans have a personal interest in safeguarding minority rights as well as respecting the majority will - a democratic ideal. This very diversity also means that each American shares one identity or another with nearly every other American. While shifting alliances can bring about disastrous instability, in America's case, they are so fluid that they create stability like a gyroscope.

Of course, whether or not one can lead as Jewish a life in America as in Israel is another matter. I would agree that Israel is the centre of Judaism. But this is a far cry from saying that a Jew who freely chooses to live elsewhere is in "exile," or even an expatriate. Where one most feels "at home" is by definition a very personal and generally intangible thing. Some may indeed feel equally at home in two or several countries. More likely than not, home will be where one's major values and *modus operandi* are most shared - or where one's heart is.

Perhaps a belief that Jews can be equally at home outside of Israel is perceived by some dogmatists as heretical and a serious threat to their extreme Zionist belief that Israel is the true home to which all Jews must return. Do they believe that such "heresy" if allowed might indeed go so far as to question and then undermine the very legitimacy of Israel as a Jewish state? All-or-nothing propositions are houses of cards.

ROBERT STARK
Jerusalem (Washington, D.C.)

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HOW ABOUT SOME HUMILITY?

upon them to leave the Diaspora and organised a mass transfer to the Holy Land. Instead, they did nothing, actively opposing aliya and waiting in a most un-Jewish fashion for a Divine miracle to save them. It was Maimonides who averred that the Temple was destroyed and the people dispersed because they had relied on superstition rather than "perfecting the arts of war and learning offensive strategies" (Letter to the Rabbis of Marseilles).

d. The yeshivot oppose all secular learning and no doubt hastened assimilation in the last century by driving youth to seek education and vocational training elsewhere. If their principles had been adhered to by the masses, there would be no Jewish hospitals, no scientific achievement in Israel from which all benefit, including the Orthodox.

e. Bnei Brak (which incidentally was founded by religious Zionist leader Isaac Gerstenkorn in the face of the opposition of the yeshiva world) has its fair share of internal strife and unethical behaviour, even if the violence is not of the publicly visible and statistically registered variety. In general, the distribution of compliments to different sectors of the Jewish public is invidious,

scientifically suspect and best left to the Almighty.

Would it not be more fruitful and fairer to support all efforts to intensify loyalty to the totality of Torah, whatever the source? All camps, both secular and yeshiva, have plenty to rectify and improve. The yeshiva can promote more *derech eretz* and productivity as well as the mass aliya of their adherents. Instead of the trickle we see, more scientific studies, more sensitivity and tolerance, sharing the responsibility of "perfecting the skills of war" with the non-observant and *hesder* fellow-citizens in the Israeli army.

The so-called secularists can invest greater efforts in promoting Torah study at all levels of education, embracing an unconditional respect for and familiarity with religious traditions and customs, giving their charges real freedom to choose or reject them. There are signs both of promise and intransigence among both observant and non-observant alike.

But self-righteousness and self-congratulation are not a prescription for spiritual improvement in either camp. Humility has always been a cardinal virtue of our rabbinic tradition.

Jerusalem. **ARYEH NEWMAN**

MEDIOCRE CEREMONY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, - It is not easy to write critically about the opening ceremony of the annual Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day. Our hearts and minds are attuned to the solemn significance of this national memorial to the Holocaust, and it is our emotions that are engaged rather than our rational faculties.

Nevertheless, surely we ought to give some thought to the question of whether this is really the most suitable way to open the observances. Is this the best that the Jewish State can do to mark the occasion as it approaches the end of its fourth decade?

The President, this time, did no more than formally open the proceedings, and then we had speeches from the Chairman of Yad Vashem, the Chairman of the Partisans' Association, the Prime Minister, the Sephardi Chief Rabbi, as well as a message from the Chairman of the Yad Vashem Council. There were songs by a children's choir, poems by Guri and Alterman, music by the Police Band, and the memorial prayer, *El Male Rahamin*, from the Army Chief Cantor.

The speakers were all worthy men, and I would not like to offend these charming children, whose fresh faces and voices symbolized the triumph of youth over the attempt to exterminate the Jewish people, or their loving parents, who were, no doubt, proudly watching.

And yet, it must be said, there was an atmosphere of mediocrity over the entire ceremony. Apart from the

two poems, one of which was feelingly recited by a veteran announcer, there was hardly a memorable word spoken. It would be too much to expect these eminent men to say something new year after year, but - with the possible exception of the Prime Minister - why must they try?

Why should we not hear an analysis of the meaning of the Holocaust in our day by a historian, a philosopher, or a poet? Names that spring to mind are Professor Saul Friedlander, Professor Emil Fackenheim, Hayim Guri and Abba Kovner. With all due respect to the *askanim* eloquence and profundity are not necessarily their strong points. Why should the central feature of this annual ceremony not be an address by one of our *anshei ruah* - men of spiritual and intellectual stature?

The musical and poetical parts of the programme, too, should be entrusted to the best performers that Israel can offer: one of our foremost choirs, musicians from the Philharmonic led by a distinguished conductor, and one of our finest actors or actresses to recite the poems.

Instead of being tailored out of the everyday materials that lie to hand, the ceremony should be a demonstration of the outstanding achievements of our national culture, which is one of the most important answers to the Nazi Holocaust. Will the responsible authorities keep these considerations in mind as they plan next year's ceremony?

Jerusalem. **MISHA LOUVISH**

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